

# HISTORY

OF

## LUDLOW, VT.

BY

JOSEPH N. HARRIS

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*History of*  
LUDLOW  
VERMONT

BY

JOSEPH N. HARRIS

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Charlestown, N. H.

Publishers

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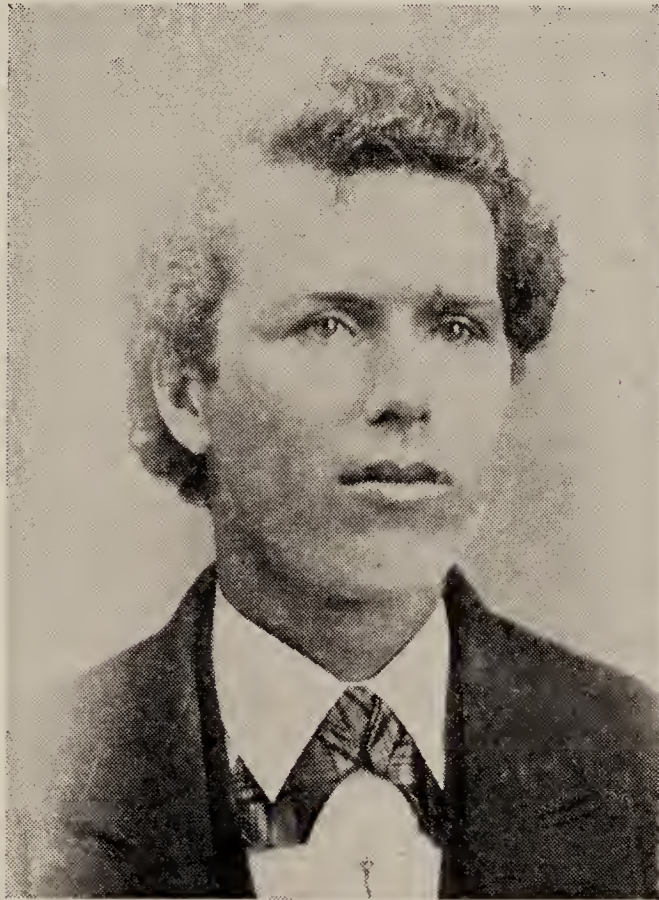
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## THE AUTHOR

Joseph Nelson Harris, son of Joseph and Clara (Podwin) Harris, was born in Middlebury, Vt. January 9, 1853. He was the fourth generation that the first son was named Joseph. His greatgrandfather came to Canada from England in 1802. Later they moved to Vermont. His education came from the common schools. While young his family moved to Ludlow.



Joseph N. Harris

On March 14, 1877 he married Ella Eliza Day, only daughter of Enoch and Lucy (Hale) Day. They had four children, Inez Isabel, born Jan. 25, 1878, died Sept. 24, 1893. Ina May, born Dec. 10, 1879. An infant son born Oct. 15, 1881, died Oct. 25, 1881. Sidney Day, born Sept. 24, 1882.

After his marriage he lived on the Enoch Day Jr. farm for more than fifty years. Nearly all of his life he was interested in the lumber business. He also was very much interested in the trying out and developing new fruits and farm crops.

Feeling the need of a history of the town, he used all of his spare time for a good many years in the writing of this

History. He walked a great many miles in the research work. Because of financial reverses caused by the burning of his saw mills, he was unable to finance the printing. A good many years ago he realized no one would help him with the printing and because of the high cost of printing this kind of a book, he decided to take out a part of it making a smaller book. In 1931 he re-wrote that part bringing it up to that date. He died without its being printed.

That his long hours of hard work may not have been spent in vain and that his life long wish should be fulfilled and knowing that if his writings were lost they could never be replaced, we are having the History published, as he wrote it, including the parts he had taken out. He had not fully completed the map of the Old Houses and Cellars. We have completed it as far as possible. The locations can be found by the corresponding numbers on the map. Also the Business Men were not completed, we have filled in the deaths of those he had written as far as possible.

We are very grateful to Harry Lemere for the loan of several photograph half-tones. Also the Black River High School for others.

We hope this History may help to fill the long felt need of a History of Ludlow.

Charlestown, N. H.  
May 30, 1949

Ina Harris Harding  
Archie F. Harding

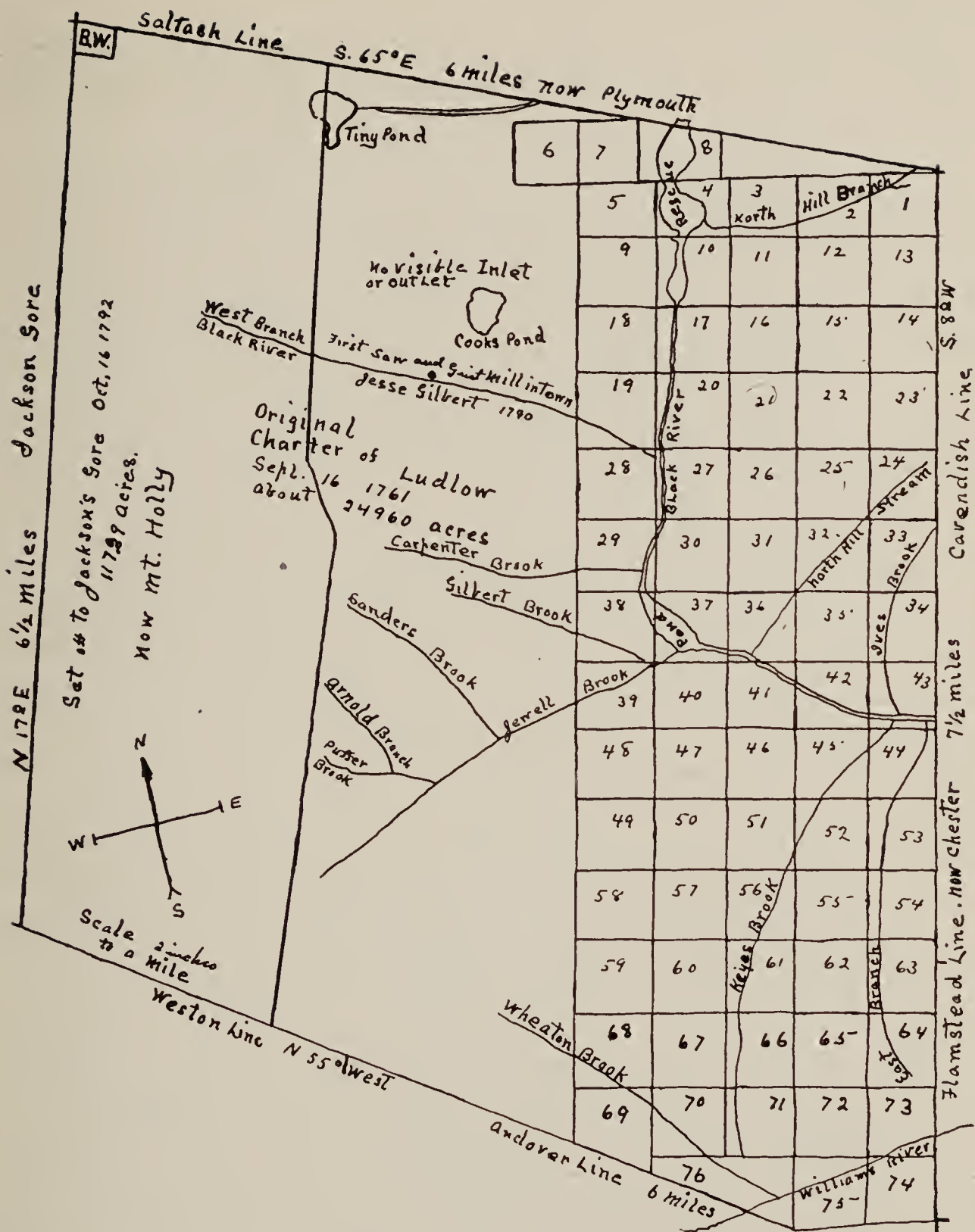


Chart of Land granted under the Charter, 1761



A Copy of the Charter of Ludlow, Vermont

September 16th 1761.

Ludlow

Province of New Hampshire

George, the Third.

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By the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, etc.

To all persons to whom these presents shall come, greetings. Know ye, that, we of our special grace, certain knowledge and Meer motion for the due encouragement of settling a new Plantation within our said province, by and with the advice of our trusty and well-beloved Benning Wentworth, Esq. Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our said Province of New Hampshire in New England, and of our council of the said Province have upon the Conditions and Reservations hereinafter made, given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors do give and grant in equal shares, unto our loving subjects, inhabitants of our said Province of New Hampshire, and our other Governments, and to their heirs and assigns forever, whose names are entered on these grants, to be divided to and amongst them into seventy-one equal shares, all that tract or parcel of land situate, lying for and being within our said Province of N. H., containing by sd measurement, about twenty-four thousand acres, which tract is to contain something more than six miles square, and no more, out of which are allowance to be made for highways and unimprovable lands by rocks, ponds, Mountains & Rivers. One Thousand and Forty Acres free, according to a plan and survey thereof made by our said Governor's order, and returned into the Secretary's office and hereunto annexed, butted and a-bounded as follows:

Viz, Beginning at the Northwesterly Corner of Flamstead, thence running North fifty-five degrees, west six miles, thence North Seventeen Degrees, East six Miles and one half mile to the southwesterly corner of Saltash, thence South sixty-five degrees, east Six miles by Saltash, aforesaid, to the Southerly-easterly corner thereof, then South



eight degrees, west Seven Miles and one half mile to Flamstead line, then by Flamstead sd line to the Northwesterly Corner of Flamstead being the bound first above mentioned and that the same be and hereby Incorporated into a township by the name of Ludlow, and that the Inhabitants that do or shall hereafter inhabit the said township, are hereby declared to be enfranchised with and entitled to all and every Priviledges and Immunities that other towns within our Province by law exercise and enjoy;

And further, that the said town, as soon as there shall be Fifty Families, resident and settled thereon shall have the liberty of holding two Fairs, one of which shall be held on the—and the other on the—annually, which fairs shall not continue longer than the respective—following the said—and that as soon as the said town shall consist of Fifty families a Market may be opened and kept one or more days a week as may be thought most advantageous to the inhabitants.

Also that the first meeting for the choice of officers agreeable to the laws of our said Province should be held on the second Monday of October next which said meeting shall be notified by Capt. Elakim Hall who is hereby appointed the Moderator of the said first meeting, which he is to notify and govern agreeable to the laws and customs of our said Province, and that the annual meeting forever hereafter for the choice of such officers for the said town shall be on the second Tuesday of March, annually. To Have and to hold the said Tract of land as above expressed, together with all priviledges and appurtenances to them and their respective Heirs and Assigns, forever, upon the following conditions,

That every Grantee, his Heirs or Assigns shall plant and cultivate five acres of land within the term of five years for every fifty acres contained in his or their shares or Proportion of land in said township and continue to improve and settle the same by additional cultivations, or penalty of the Forfeiture of his Grant or share in that Township, and of its reverting to us, or Heirs and Successors, to be by us our Heirs or Successors re-granted to such of our subjects as shall eventually settle and cultivate the same.

That all White and other Pine trees within the said township fit for masting our Royal Navy, to be carefully preserved for that use, and none to be cut or felled without our special License for so doing, first had and obtained, upon the penalty and of the forfeiture of the right of such Grantees, his heirs and assigns to us, Our Heirs and Successors, as well as being subject to the penalty of any Act of Parliament that now are or hereafter shall be enacted.

That before any division of the land be made to and among the Grantees, a Tract of Land as near the center of sd Township as the land will admit of shall be reserved and marked out for the town lot, one of which shall be allotted to each Grantee of the Contents of one acre.

Yielding and paying thereof to us, our heirs and assigns for the space of ten years, to be computed from the date hereof, the rent of one ear of Indian Corn only, on the 25th day of Dec. Annually, if lawfully demanded, the first payment to be made on the twenty-fifth day of Dec. 1762.

Every Proprietor, Settler or inhabitant shall yield and pay unto us, our heirs and successors, Yearly and every year forever, from and after the Expiration of Ten Years from the above said 25th Day of December, which will be in the year of Our Lord, 1772, one shilling Proclamation money for every hundred acres he so owns, settles or possesses, and so in proportion for a greater or lesser tract of the said Land; which money shall be paid by the respective persons above said, their heirs or assigns, in our Council Chamber in Portsmouth, or to such Officer or Officers as shall be appointed to receive the same; and this to be in lieu of all other rents and services whatsoever.

The testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of our said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness—Benning Wentworth Esq. Our Governor and Commander-in-Chief of our said Province, the sixteenth day of Sept. in the Year of Our Lord & Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-one and in the first Year of Our Reign.

B. Wentworth.

By His Excellency's Command  
with advise of Council.

Theodore Atkinson, Secretary.

Province of New Hampshire, Sept. 16, 1761.

Recorded According to the Original Charter  
under the Province Seal.

Attested by Theodore Atkinson, Secry.

His Excellency, Benning Wentworth Esq., a tract of land  
to contain five hundred acres as marked B. W. in the Plan  
and is to be accounted two of the within shares. One whole  
share for the incorporated Society for the propagation of  
the Gospel in Foreign Parts. One share for a Glebe for the  
Church of England as by law established, one share for  
the first settled minister of the Gospel, and one share for  
the benefit of a school in said town.

Province of New Hampshire, Sept. 16, 1761.

Recorded from the back of the original Charter for Ludlow  
under the Province seal.

Attested

Theodore Atkinson, Secry.



## INTRODUCTION

The last of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth has brought to the minds of the people the pressing need of collecting the historical facts of every part of the country, that succeeding generations in the centuries to come, may know what science and invention have done for the promotion of civilization in that period of time. Enlightenment has advanced more rapidly during the last fifty years, than in the five centuries preceding.

For many years, the author has felt that a more complete history of Ludlow should be written than has ever been attempted. Therefore, though realizing his own unfitness for the work, he has undertaken to make out a record of the past history of the town, before the passage of time shall have cast upon its historical facts, a shadow too deep to be removed.

The work has been prepared under great difficulties, while the pressure of other business has allowed but little interval for research. Several years have passed during its preparation, but no pains have been spared to verify each historical item. Many have aided in the work, some of whom have passed on to be enrolled on higher records than can be given them here.

Much care has been given to compiling the general history of the town. The genealogical records are not fully taken up, and if desired, should be prepared in a separate volume.

In closing this work, grateful thanks are tendered to all who have given assistance in bringing this history to completion.

Jos. N. Harris.

1931.



## HISTORY OF LUDLOW

Ludlow is a post town situated in the southwestern part of Windsor county, Vermont, and borders on the Green Mountains on the west. It has within its limits, the eastern declivities of the mountain known as Center Mountain, whose summit rises 2,560 feet above Main street of the village, and 3,660 feet above tide water.

The town is bounded on the north by Plymouth, east by Cavendish and Chester, south by Andover and Weston, and west by Mount Holly.

For nearly eight miles, the western boundary line passes along the ridge of the mountains that separate Windsor and Rutland counties. Ludlow is irregular in form, its greatest length being from north to south, and its greatest width, from east to west south of the center. The township, at the present time, contains about thirty-six square miles.

The charter of Ludlow bears the date of Sept. 16, 1761, and was granted to Jared Lee and sixty-five others, by Benning Wentworth, colonial governor of New Hampshire. Seventy-six lots were surveyed from the east side of the town, the ranges of lots extending the entire length of the town. These lots were then numbered, the numbers put upon tickets, and the tickets put into a hat. They were then stirred up and each member drew a ticket on which was the number of the lot that he was to have. The lots were numbered beginning at the north east corner, and passing to the west on the northern tier of lots, then east on the second tier, and so on. Below we give a list of the numbers of the lots, with the names of the men who drew them: Samuel Hitchcock drew No. 1, Caleb Hall, No. 2, Ezekiel Cowles, No. 3, Thomas Thebles, No. 10, Nathan Williams, No. 11, John Newell, No. 12, Moses Hill, No. 13, Timothy Hall, No. 14, Israel Calkins, No. 15, Josiah Newell, No. 17, Jonathan Woodruff, No. 18, Eliakim Hall, Jr., No. 19, David Hill, No. 20, Capt. Eliakim Hall, No. 21, William Lee, No. 22, Steele Smith, No. 23, Solomon Curtis, No. 24, Jared Lee, No. 25, Street Hall, No. 26, Dr. John Dickinson, No. 28, Seth Lee, No. 29, Nathaniel Fellows, No. 30, Jonathan Norton, No. 31, Joel Potter, No. 32, Samuel Slow, No. 33,

Joseph Bishop, No. 34, Stephen Barnes, No. 35, David Austin, No. 36, John Norton, No. 37, John Carter, No. 38, Samuel Bishop, Jr., No. 39, Stephen Hall, No. 41, Zadock Orvis, No. 42, John Hall, No. 43, Nathan Penfield, No. 44, David Lyman, No. 45, Isaac Hall, Jr., No. 46, Isaac Doolittle, No. 47, Joseph Lee, No. 49, Phineas Lewis, No. 50, Silas Beckwith, No. 51, Samuel Austin, No. 52, Elihu Hall, No. 53, Isaac Bidwell, No. 54, Moses Lyman, No. 55, Samuel Bishop, No. 56, Abraham Turner, No. 57, Uri Tuttle, No. 58, William Judd, No. 59, Daniel Warner, No. 60, Thomas Norton, No. 61, Robert Wybert, No. 62, David Clark, Jr., No. 63, Timothy Borman, No. 64, George Hinsdale, No. 65, Solomon Hart, No. 66, John Mix, No. 67, Timothy Lee, No. 68, Thomas Hart, No. 69, Amos Lee, No. 70, Timothy Root, No. 71, Hezekiah Hall, No. 72, Charles Norton, No. 73, Thomas Thebles, No. 74, Joseph Blakesly, No. 76. No. 27 was the glebe land set aside for the established Church of England. This lot lies on the west side of North Hill, and is owned, part by Charles H. Pollard, another part by the Rufus Spaulding estate; and also includes a part of the farm formerly owned by Joseph Dunn. No. 16 was set apart for the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts. Lot No. 48 was set aside for the public schools. It lay in the most westerly tier of lots. West of these lots was a strip of 5,261 acres, taking in the east side of the mountain. This strip was called "grab-land" by the first settlers. It was not surveyed into regular lots like the eastern part of the town, but a man could go on and survey off what he wanted, and hold it, or, as other settlers came into town, he could sell his claim. Jesse Fletcher took a thousand acres in this way, at the base of the mountain, where the farms of the late Isaac Wadleigh and Oscar Warren are now situated. The school lands includes the land occupied by Arthur Lawrence, John Stevens, John Grochenk, George Creaser, Harlan Graham, Leon Farr, Carroll Grover, Clarence Warren, Charles Proulx, and the farm formerly owned by Jonathan Mayo. This land, set aside for special purposes, is called lease land. No. 75 was set aside for the first minister settled in the town, and Rev. Peter Read, ordained in October, 1810, received this



lot, which was located in the south part of the town, now called "Smokeshire." No. 40 was to be given to the first child born in town. This was Adam, son of Simeon Read, who was born March 25, 1784, and from the circumstance of his being the first-born of the town, was named for the first man, Adam.

Nos. 5, 6, and 7 were not assigned to anyone. Nos. 4 and 8 were occupied mostly by the ponds.

None of the original proprietors took up their claims, excepting Seth Lee, brother of Jared Lee. He settled upon his lot, No. 29, which now includes Pond street. He died in Ludlow, February 17, 1803. Lot No. 42 was taken by Oliver Orvis, son of Zadock Orvis, and father of our former townsman, Oliver Orvis.

The town as first chartered, contained about 24,960 acres. Oct. 16, 1792, 11,739 acres were taken from the west side of the mountain and with Jackson's Gore, which contained 10,669 acres, was added to 3,388 acres from the town of Wallingford, to form the town of Mount Holly. This left Ludlow with its present area of about 13,221 acres.

Jared Lee never established his claim here, and no attempt at settlement was made until 1783-4, when Josiah and Jesse Fletcher, brothers, Simeon Read, and James Whitney, immigrants from Massachusetts, moved into the town, and began clearing the virgin soil on the alluvial flats bordering upon Black River, east of the present village. At least, the three first mentioned settled there, but James Whitney, fearing disastrous results from the river at times of high water, sought what seemed to him greater security on the higher land of North Hill.

At the time that the town was chartered, this country was under the jurisdiction of England, and the people were compelled to pay to that government, one tenth part of all productions, every tenth bushel of grain, every tenth pound of wool, and so forth. On the twenty-fifth of December, for a period of ten years, the head of each family had to pay to Gov. Benning Wentworth, one ear of Indian corn, and on the same date, they were required to pay one shilling of Proclamation money, or forfeit their land claims.

The king of England, through his agent, Gov. Wentworth, reserved all rights from the grantees, to cut and remove all pine trees in the town, that were suitable for masts for the ships of the royal navy. This continued until the Declaration of Independence removed that burden from the shoulders of the Americans. As the original proprietors did not settle on their claims, the taxes were left unpaid. After the first settlers came, others from Massachusetts and Connecticut soon followed, and some gained their land by paying the taxes, while others remained on their land for twenty-three years, and so gained it by possession.

It is supposed that Ludlow received its name from Ludlow, Mass., where some of the descendants of Lord Ludlow settled and gave their new home the name of their old home in England. The town was organized in 1792, and the first annual town-meeting was held on the last day of March of that year. The meeting was held at the house of Stephen Read. Jesse Fletcher was elected clerk, and also first selectman. James Hadley was second, and Elihu Ives, third selectman. Peter Read was sent to the state legislature in 1795, as the first representative from Ludlow.

The natural formation of Ludlow is such that, until within a few years, the principal industry has been agriculture, although at the present time, manufacturing takes the lead. The motive power for the latter industry is obtained from the waters of Black River. This stream rises, a tiny riverlet called Split Brook, in the extreme north-western corner of Plymouth, and flowing down the mountain-side, strikes a rock in its course, which splits the stream into two parts, one of which is turned northward and mingles its waters with those of the Otta-queechee, while the other, Black River, flows in a southerly direction through Plymouth and Ludlow till it reaches about the center of the latter town where the village now stands, then, turning in an easterly direction, it follows this course to the Cavendish line. It received its name from the fact that the soil over which it flows, gives the water a dark appearance. It has not been subject to change as some other natural features of the town have, but, as in the days when the sound of the woodman's axe was first heard upon its banks, peacefully pursues



its course, unheeding the many changes wrought on either side of its path. It has been a faithful servant to the interests of the town, to all who might harness its power to the water-wheel, or convert its waters into the still greater power of steam and electricity, and whispers to the observer the tale of years of faithful service performed in quietness, and will doubtless continue to do so for ages to come.

The first tributary of Black River of any size in Ludlow, is that which forms the outlet of Tiny pond, and empties its waters into the upper Ludlow pond. The next tributary is known as The Branch, receiving that name from being so called by James Coss, who, with a party of twelve Canada Mohawk Indians, was journeying through this locality from Fort Dummer to Lake Champlain in 1730. It rises in Mount Holly, and adds its waters to the river at Grahamsville. This stream furnished the power for the first saw-mill and grist-mill ever built in Ludlow. The third tributary, called Jewell Brook, joins the river at the village. Another stream drains most of the southeastern part of the town, and empties just above Smithville. The extreme southeastern corner of the town is crossed by the Williams river. These are all the streams of any size in town, though numerous smaller streams add their waters to those of the main stream.

Three lakes add their beauty to the scenery of the town. Tiny Pond, a small lake about half a mile in diameter, is situated nearly at the summit of the mountain, and has no visible inlet. According to the original charter, the lake was wholly included in the town, but when the western portion was set off to Mount Holly, it left only about a third of it in Ludlow. When the town was first settled, very fine specimens of brook trout were found in this little lake.

Black River has three lakes, two in Plymouth and one in Ludlow. Formerly, they were called simply "the ponds," being distinguished from each other by specifying their positions, as the upper or lower Plymouth pond, or the Ludlow pond, later they received special names. The upper pond has become Lake Adsalule, the lower pond is called Echo Lake, and the Ludlow pond, or reservoir, is known as Rescue Lake. The last named lake has become a favorite

resort for pleasure seekers in summer, and tasteful cottages have been erected near it for the use of its visitors.

Various accounts are current in regard to the naming of Rescue Lake. The following tradition is thought by many to have been the origin of the name. Soon after the settlement of the town, and before highways had been constructed, a little girl of ten years, Patty Gleason by name, was sent by her parents to a neighbors to obtain some coals to renew the fire that had become extinguished. In these days of lucifer matches, this seems like a strange errand, but in those days when matches were unknown, it was a very common one. On her return home, the child strayed from the right course, (marked, in all probability, only by notches cut in the trees,) and became lost. After waiting several hours, her parents became alarmed at her continued absence, and her father went after her. Finding that she had started for home early in the morning, they concluded she was lost, and began a search for her. For four days they sought in vain, but at the close of the fourth day, the child was found lying asleep on the bank of the lake which, from this occurrence, has since been named Rescue Lake. When little Patty told the story of her wanderings, she said that she passed the second night with a black sheep and two lambs, which were supposed to have been a bear with two cubs. This story doubtless is founded upon fact, but that the incident was the source from which the name of the lake was derived, seems to be contradicted by the one to whom the actual naming of the lake is credited. This was Hon. S. A. Giffin, then principal of Black River Academy, later a resident of Boulder, Colorado. He stated "It came about in this way: One summer a party of us were camping on the bank of the lake, and it struck us that Ludlow pond was altogether too common-place for so pretty a body of water. As near as I can remember, I then concocted a story about a rescue that occurred on this lake, of a young girl from a party of Indians, and then and there, in due and solemn form, the party baptized the lake in its own waters, and christened it Rescue Lake."

Prior to 1835, Rescue Lake was only about two thirds its present size. In that year, the owners of the woolen mills



in Ludlow, Proctorsville, and Cavendish (then known as Duttonsville) united, and constructed a dam across the southern end of the lake, filling in from the western end of the bridge that crossed just above the dam, to the west bank of the lake, leaving only a space for the flood-gate. This considerably increased the capacity of the lake as a reservoir, both in depth and surface. The area is now about five hundred acres. During the great freshet of 1869, the embankment filled in at the end of the bridge, on the top of which ran the public highway, was washed away, and the lake nearly drained.

The bottom of the lake is composed of black mud, and the early settlers found it the home of an abundant supply of eels and horned pout. We have been told that at that time, a bushel of fish could be caught with a hook and line in an hour, fishing from the bank.

In 1835, Jephthah Spaulding and Benjamin Billings brought nineteen pike from Wells pond, and put them into the waters of Rescue Lake. These fish greatly diminished the stock of horned pout, by feeding on the little fishes newly hatched from the spawn. A few years later, the grass pickerel were introduced, and these in turn proved disastrous to the pike family. About 1875, the black bass and the rock bass were added, and these continued the work of destruction. In 1889, perch were put into the lake, and at the present time, perch and pickerel are about all that remain in any abundance, and the spoils of the fisherman are few.

Some previous writers have called the widening of the river below the dam, a lake, but it is hardly of sufficient extent to justify the name.

Before the dam was built across the river at the Ludlow Woolen Mills, the river, at what is now the upper end of the factory pond, was considerably widened in its natural bed, the land being low and marshy, but the building of the dam caused a much greater overflow, and the pond now takes up nearly the whole width of the valley in the northern part of the village.

The last, and, to the curiosity seeker, perhaps the most interesting of Ludlow's lakes, is the Cook pond, so named

from Samuel Cook, who once lived near it. This little body of water lies to the northwest of Grahamsville, is nearly circular in form, and has an area of about an acre and a half. It lies like a half-buried jewel, surrounded by banks unbroken by any visible inlet or outlet, yet with pure, living waters, inhabited by the horned-pout and grass pickerel. The waters are very deep, excepting a space on the northern and eastern sides, bordering which there are bogs that the explorer would do well to avoid. Many a boy has played and whiled away his happiest hours on the banks of this little lake, before entering the more important paths of life, and the memory of those innocent frolics is still cherished in their minds.

The surface of Ludlow is very uneven, there being only two valleys of any importance. Black River valley divides the northern part of the town nearly in the center, and then follows the course of the river eastward. It is a narrow valley, varying in width from about twenty-five rods to half a mile. Jewell Brook valley, also a narrow one, runs nearly north and south through the southwestern part of the town, and joins the Black River valley near the center, forming a Y.

That portion of the town which lies to the north and east of Black River valley, is known as North Hill. On the west and south, the hill rises abruptly, and slopes from the summit eastward to the Cavendish line. Most of the drainage of the hill is therefore carried in that direction. Some of the best farms in town are situated on this hill. South Hill and East Hill, separated only by a slight depression, fill out that portion of the town east of the Jewell Brook valley, and south of Black River valley. This portion contains nearly one half of the farming interests of the town. The highest point of South Hill is called Bear Hill, and is a peculiar formation. It rises in sugar-loaf form, from the irregular summit of the hill, and from its top the country can be seen for many miles around. Very fine specimens of steel and magnetic iron ore are found in this hill.

When the town was first settled, three hunters, Jonathan Whitcomb, Andrew Pettigrew, and Leonard Ross, climbed



this hill in search of game, during a heavy snowstorm. They found a large maple tree, whose trunk was about four feet in diameter, and which inclined to the east at an angle of about forty-five degrees. About twenty feet from the foot of the tree, was a large opening into the hollow trunk and as the hunters came in sight, a bear came out from this hole, and walked down the sloping trunk to the ground. The hunters blazed away with their flintlock muskets, or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that they **attempted** to do so, but the **blaze** was missing, owing to the priming of their guns being dampened by the storm. Two more bears followed the first in the same manner, and walked away, while the discomfited hunters in vain endeavored to get a shot at them. This incident gave the name to Bear Hill.

On the northern slope of South Hill are some fine specimens of soap-stone. The vein extends into Black River valley, and has been quarried to some extent at Smithville.

West Hill rises abruptly from the valley, west of the village, and forms a sort of table-land at the base of the mountain, on which are several good farms. Building stone is quarried here, and gold-bearing quartz is also found in small quantities.

When Ludlow was first settled, that part which is now Main street just above the new concrete bridge, was a swamp. This was proved when the ditches for the sewer and water-pipes were dug in 1894. Balsam and spruce trees were found, buried six feet below the surface, being, undoubtedly, some of the original forest trees. It seems a remarkable fact that they were still in sound condition. The wearing away of the river-bed during the past century, together with artificial aid by filling in, has rendered the land dry and habitable.

In 1760, Ludlow was one unbroken forest, and this forest was peculiarly divided as to the varieties of timber. From the site of the present village to the summit of North Hill, the acclivities, as far as the Plymouth line, were clothed with yellow pine. There was also a considerable quantity of the same kind of timber on the west side of Rescue Lake. The remainder of North Hill was covered



principally with deciduous trees. South Hill, East Hill, and West Hill, were also covered mostly with hard wood timber. The valleys were wooded with evergreens of a larger growth than those growing on higher ground. These were spruce, hemlock, and balsam. The mountain slopes on the west of the town were wooded principally with spruce and hard wood. A pine or hemlock tree is seldom found on the eastern slope of the mountains, above their base. On the mountain, the original forest was almost unmarred by the hand of man, as late as 1860, and at the present time, only a small percentage of the old growth timber remains standing. One mighty monarch of the forest, however, is known to many of us. The old elm tree that stands near the river on Dr. L. E. Hope's lawn, (perhaps better known to some as the George Billings place,) is, without question, one of the original forest trees. The variety is known as the water elm, and this tree is the only one of that variety in, or about the village. By the usual method of computing the age of trees, we find this old giant to be more than four hundred and eighty years old. It had been growing seventy-seven years when Columbus discovered America, the storms of three hundred and forty-five winters had toughened its fibers, when Ludlow was chartered, and it was three hundred and sixty-one years old when it was dignified with American citizenship by the Declaration of Independence. It trembled at the sound of the first white woodman's axe, but, providentially, it has been spared, that it might stand as Ludlow's oldest landmark. It has stood the test of the severest storms by relaxing every fiber of its body, for centuries. Generation after generation has risen and passed away without harming the old tree. May future generations, like those of the past, spare it to live its allotted time, and yield at last only to natural decay. It has always stood as a sentinel over Ludlow's sorrows and joys, and has ever been ready to yield obedience to the courts of justice, and cool all feverish brows that sought the shadow of its broad branches. For many years the industrious honey-bee made its home in one of its branches, feeling sure it had a home safe from the transgressions of the honey-loving boy.

## CHURCHES

### The Congregational Church

The first religious meetings held within the limits of Ludlow, were held by the Congregationalists. The services were held at the house of Stephen Read, and were usually conducted by Peter Read. The house where these meetings were held in 1792, stood on the valley road leading to Mount Holly, near Buttermilk Falls. Vestiges of the old house are still visible. The house was sheathed up inside with pine boards, some of which were three feet wide, and were made from the large pine trees that then stood in the valley along Black River. Before the erection of a church edifice, meetings were sometimes held during warm weather, in a little hollow north-east of the cemetery.

In the summer of 1806, a plain, one-story church was built, with four gables, and without ornament or steeple. It was the first meeting-house built in Ludlow, and was located nearly on the site of the old Congregational church that was taken down in April, 1897. It stood opposite the northern end of Depot street. This little edifice was built by Ephriam Dutton, Sr., who died about the time the church was finished. Mr. Dutton was a Revolutionary soldier, and during his service, was taken prisoner by the Indians, and taken into the wilderness of New York. His captors cut his hair close to his head, and then painted his scalp. They then tried to teach him how to hoe corn, but he showed no knowledge of the art of agriculture, so he was excused from that branch of labor. Later, he married a squaw, but took a helpmeet of his own color, after he escaped and returned to civilized life.

The first church society was formed in 1806, and was called The First Congregational Meetinghouse Society. The first communion service was held about two months after the organization of the church.

The second church was built in 1839. It cost the society about \$1,850, aside from what was donated. Asahel Miller built the church by contract. It was a one-story building,



forty-five by sixty feet, and of very plain design, as suited the times. It had a square, open belfry having two bases, the upper one being a trifle smaller than the lower, and elevated above it about two feet. From each corner of these bases, rose a short spire, making eight in all. For more than half a century, they stood as silent sentinels, clothed with the mantle of gray which the storms of succeeding years had given them, pointing steadfastly heavenward.

At the south end of this church, were two entrance doors, each opening into a small vestibule, and between these, the singers' gallery was built, facing the body of the church. The pulpit stood at the extreme north end of the church, facing the row of double pews in the center of the room, and a row of single pews along the eastern and western walls, left two long aisles extending from the entrance doors to the pulpit. All the fixtures were of plain finish, and the walls were simply white-washed. The windows, of which there were ten in the audience-room, were of peculiar design, each having forty lights of glass eight by fourteen inches, making the windows about nine feet high. These windows were, no doubt, of the latest design, when they were put into the church.

In 1808, Peter Read, by request of the church, was licensed to preach by the Rutland Association, at the September session held at Granville, N. Y. In April, 1810, the church gave him a unanimous call to become its pastor. This call he accepted, and was ordained in October, 1810. He closed his labors with this church, Oct. 25, 1826, after sixteen years of faithful service.

Rev. Peter Read was born in 1751, and died Oct. 6, 1839. He was ordained in the little hollow already alluded to, north-east of the cemetery. A short description of this place, which may still be traced out, may be of interest. The depression somewhat resembled a tin pan in form, and the congregation stood around above this hollow, while the ceremonies of ordination were conducted on the lower ground. In his remarks, Mr. Read said to his congregation, that he thought it customary for a preacher to be ordained **over** his people, instead of **beneath** them. He was a great and good man, but very peculiar in many ways. He was



noted for his long sermons, and was very rigid toward the young people in them. Like the ancient, eight-day clock, his strength and vocal powers were slow to run down. He once owned an old sorrel horse, who would allow no one but his master to catch him. One day, a neighbor, Mr. Waldo Archer, went to borrow the horse to plow out some corn, Mr. Read being absent. Mrs. Read gave consent to the taking of the horse if Mr. Archer could catch him, as he was in the pasture. So, having put on a suit of Mr. Read's clothes and the familiar high stove-pipe hat, he went to the pasture, and, walking toward the horse, asked if he had ever seen the great St. Paul. Whereupon the horse, for some reason beyond explanation, submitted to so high an authority, and allowed himself to be led to the corn-field.

The same council that released the first pastor, installed the second, Rev. Frederick E. Cannon, who remained until 1831. Mr. Cannon was a zealous Christian, and worked for the general welfare of the community. It was through his earnest efforts that the first temperance pledge was started and circulated throughout the town. Nearly every woman in town, and most of the male citizens signed this pledge. A few refused to give their names to this worthy cause, on the ground that it would lead to too stringent liquor laws, but through the efforts of these good workers, and other similar associations throughout the state, the frame work of a prohibitory law, (repealed in 1902) was built, and passed the legislature in 1845. All temperance lovers should forever cherish in their hearts, the memory of Mr. Cannon's glorious work.

Rev. P. J. Nichols, who succeeded Mr. Cannon in 1831, was ordained pastor of the church, April 26, 1832, and was dismissed Sept. 1, 1834. Rev. Silas H. Hodge was installed Oct. 7, 1835, and dismissed Aug. 31, 1836. Rev. Wm. Claggett commenced his labors Nov. 22, 1838, and closed them Nov. 11, 1840. At this time, two hundred and forty-seven members had been received into the church. From 1840 to 1862, but three pastors were settled over the church: Rev. H. H. Sanderson, April 20, 1848 to April 26, 1853, Rev. Amos Foster, from Nov. 8, 1853 to Dec. 30,

1856, and Rev. Asa F. Clark, from May 11, 1859 to 1862. Faithful work was done by these pastors. From the organization of the church fifty-four years previous, to the close of 1860, there had been eight pastors, and ten stated supplies. There had been three hundred and eleven members connected with the church, and two hundred and ninety-five children baptized. In 1860, there were but sixty-one members. From 1860 to 1870 were years of financial depression in the church, doubtless occasioned principally by the drafts on it, caused by the war of the Rebellion. During this time, Revs. R. B. Snowden, Henry C. Hazen, J. P. Stone, and H. A. Duboc were stated supplies.

Rev. Philander Bates began his labors as acting pastor, Jan. 1, 1871, and continued till April 9, 1873, when, at the age of seventy-one, he was called to his final rest. His faithful work was taken up and carried forward by Rev. S. P. Cook, from September, 1873, to February, 1877, when he was obliged to give up his good work on account of failing health. While here, he was identified with the Y. M. C. A. work of the state, and was the corresponding secretary of the society. Rev. J. B. Clark, a resident minister, and Rev. Mr. Beecher supplied until Rev. Geo. H. French came in March, 1878, remaining till May, 1880, when J. B. Clark again supplied for about a year. After him, Rev. R. B. Grover was ordained and installed, Oct. 4, 1881, and remained till dismissed by council March 3, 1884, on account of ill-health. It was during his ministry here, that the religious work at Tyson was begun, the pastor of this church going there each Sunday afternoon. A church edifice has been built at that place, completed and dedicated in 1896.

Rev. H. P. Fisher began his work in the fall of 1884, was ordained and installed Feb. 4, 1885, and dismissed by council May 28, 1889. Sept. 15, 1889, Rev. Evan Thomas took up the work of the church, being faithful in his calling nearly four years. Nov. 22, 1893, Rev. F. H. Boynton came on, remaining until Oct. 28, 1894. Rev. Stephen H. Robinson took charge of the work of the church, April 1, 1895, and remained till Nov. 14, 1897. He was succeeded, Jan. 9, 1898, by Rev. Alfred V. Bliss, who remained till Oct. 9,



1903. In June of the following year, the pastorate was taken up by Rev. Rodney W. Roundy. He was succeeded by Rev. Wm. J. Ballou, Jan. 4, 1908 to Jan. 1, 1920, and Rev. Clifford H. Smith, May 1, 1920 to March 20, 1924, and Rev. Edward G. French, Dec. 1, 1924 to May 1, 1930.

Nov. 24, 1888, this church was incorporated under Act No. 127 of the laws of the General Assembly of the state of Vermont, approved Dec. 24, 1889, giving it all the legal rights vested in a society or association. The Ludlow Congregational Association deeded all its property to the newly incorporated church, and voted to disband Feb. 12, 1890.

Among the members of this church, the following have gone as Missionaries: Mr. and Mrs. Ephraim Spaulding, Mrs. Andrews, and Miss S. Gilson to the Sandwich Islands, Mrs. Henry C. Hazen to India, Miss Clara Pierce to Utah, and Miss Nellie Russell to China.

In 1875 and 1876, the members and friends of this church, desiring a better location and a new house of worship, appointed a committee to make necessary arrangements for this end, and active efforts were made to procure a new lot. In this, Martin H. Goddard gave valuable assistance. The title to the old church was perfected in June, 1885, and the society bought the Gregg place on Main street for the location of a new church edifice. Aug. 6, 1885, an organization was formed to raise money to pay for the lot on Main street, and to build a new church. The first rule was that each member should set aside a certain sum each week, to be paid into the hands of the treasurer. To further this plan, the following committee were appointed: Rev. H. P. Fisher, Capt. E. A. Howe, Mrs. Viola A Coolidge, Miss Maria I. Pierce, and Martin H. Goddard. This committee received and invested \$2,591.42, including four hundred dollars furnished by the Ladies' Aid Society. In February, 1890, D. F. Cooledge, Charles Raymond, and M. H. Goddard were appointed a committee to procure plans, and to raise money to build a new church. The May following, the church voted to accept from Hon. Daniel A. Heald of New York City, the gift of the lot on the corner of Pleasant and Elm streets, (a part of what was known as the Washburn lot,) as the site of the new church. Mr.



Heald also donated the plans, drawn by Edward Hapgood of New York. A building committee was appointed in October, 1890, consisting of the first committee, with the addition of E. C. Crane, A. H. Lockwood, and William Lawrence. In May, 1891, the contract for the building of the superstructure, was let to Clinton Smith of Middlebury, Vt., at \$6,939.33. J. T. Remington of Wallingford, Vt., had charge of the work. The dimension lumber for the frame, covering boards, and lath, were furnished by J. N. Harris, at \$735.07. The new church was completed in April, 1892, at a total cost of \$10,918.43, furnishings included, and the dedication ceremony took place on the fifth of May following.

The building is of colonial style of architecture, covered on the outside with cedar shingles, and stained with Cabot's Creosote. The windows are worthy of especial mention. The one directly above and back of the pulpit, is an elaborate work of art, donated by Hon. D. A. Heald as a memorial of Judge Reuben Washburn and his wife. The central window represents Christ talking with Mary and Martha, and is the work of an artist. The two smaller windows which complete the trio, are of the same class of workmanship. In the transept facing Elm street, is a trio of windows of workmanship inferior to those first described, yet artistic and beautiful. These were presented by the Sunday School, and the central one is so inscribed. The representation of the Holy Ghost descending upon the Savior in the form of a dove, is the leading feature of the window. Opposite this is another trio, a gift from the Young Peoples' Society of Christian Endeavor. The emblem is a cross and crown. All the other windows are of the same glass, are fine in design, durable, and very ornamental in appearance.

The Ladies' parlor was finished and furnished by Mrs. D. A. Heald. The room is finished in oak, and the furniture is of the same wood. The room is elegant, and impresses the mind of the observer with the sense of the taste and generosity of the donor of this beautiful and lasting gift. The beautiful mantel clock, presented by the noted clock-manufacturer, Seth Thomas, was a very useful as well as ornamental gift.

Florence Memorial Library occupying the tower corner of the ground floor, was the gift of James S. Gill and his wife, in memory of their adopted daughter, Florence Harding Gill. This room is finished in quartered oak, and the furnishings are of the same material. This was a circulating library, free to every resident of Ludlow who conformed to its rules. It was far the best library that Ludlow had ever possessed, and the generosity of the giver ought to be fully appreciated, though the library was closed to the public when the opening of the Fletcher library made its continuance unnecessary.

Perhaps nothing more plainly shows the advancement of the town, both in numbers and prosperity, than a comparison of the little square meeting-house of 1806, with the fine church edifice of 1892, yet no truer Christian hearts are found within the beautiful walls of the latter, than received spiritual instruction in the first humble little house of worship.

### **Rev. Peter Read**

Many questions have been asked as to the date of Mr. Read's birth, and other matters connected with his personal history. The sketch below may be of interest.

John Read, born 1598, came to America in 1630. He had a son, Daniel, born 1655, who was followed by a son and a grandson of the same name. The third Daniel, son of Daniel and Elizabeth, was born at Attleboro, Mass., Dec. 3, 1716, and married Mary White. The following children were born to them:

Matthew, born July 23, 1742,  
Hannah, born June 26, 1744,  
Mary, born Jan. 29, 1747,  
Daniel, born June 9, 1749,  
Peter, born July 6, 1751,  
Joel, born Aug. 16, 1753,  
Eunice, born Sept. 21, 1755,  
Daniel, born Sept. 21, 1757,  
Ezra, born May 2, 1760,  
Levi, born Aug. 23, 1762,  
William, born Dec. 27, 1764.



Peter Read, the first pastor of the Congregational church at Ludlow, was born at Rehoboth, Mass., July 6, 1751, and married Mary Pitcher in 1776. They had one child, Ezra, born at Attleboro, Mass., Dec. 16, 1777. Mrs. Read died at the birth of her child. In 1786, Mr. Read was married the second time, to Lydia Gilbert, and had the following children:

Mary, born Sept. 10, 1787,  
Rufus, born July 10, 1789,  
Jesse, born Oct. 2, 1790,  
Patty, born July 11, 1792,  
Peter, Jr., born Dec. 27, 1793,  
Mary, born May 17, 1796,  
Lydia, born Aug. 15, 1797,  
Miriam, born June 27, 1802.

Rufus, Jesse, and Patty, were born at New Haven, Ct., and those younger, at Ludlow, Vt., Mr. Read having come to this town in 1792. Lydia, the second wife, died in Ludlow, Nov. 10, 1815, aged fifty-six years, and was buried in the village cemetery.

In 1817, Mr. Read was married for the third time, to Elizabeth Baldwin of Dorset, Vt. By this marriage there were no children. Mr. Read died in Ludlow, Oct. 6, 1839. No trace is obtainable as to where he received his education. He was considered an able preacher in the days when he spoke the words of the Lord to his followers, and was esteemed as a good Christian man, but he was odd in many expressions, and more strict in his orthodoxy which he tried to impress rigidly upon the minds of his hearers, than would be appreciated in these days, coming from an American pulpit. A man who preaches the gospel to a sinning world, should do so with fearless earnestness, but when he fills his mind with the belief that he is God's strength incarnate, standing between man and his Maker, and tries to enforce this belief upon the minds of others, it is a mistake that only hinders the advancement of true Christianity.



## **The Baptist Church**

The Baptist church of Ludlow dates no farther back than to 1825. Orlando Whitney and his wife were the first Baptists in Ludlow. The first person of this faith baptized here, was Mrs. Simeon Read, in 1800, and the second, Andrew Pettigrew, was baptized in 1803. Before 1800, there was neither school building nor church edifice in town. In 1806, there were thirteen Baptists in town, who held meetings in private houses, sometimes in the house south of Grahamsville, on the farm where Levi Pettigrew formerly lived, and at other times, in the little house built by Asa Fletcher in 1804, which stood on the garden spot of the house now owned by Frank Bugbee. In 1836, the little house where the meetings were held was moved. It is now the property of Mrs. F. A. Walker, and is known as the Leland house. It was used, also, for school purposes. Meetings were also held at the house of Andrew Pettigrew on South Hill, where George Dumas now lives.

Elder Leland of Chester, or Elder Manning of Andover, administered the ordinance of baptism, when no resident minister of the gospel was present. Andrew Pettigrew, who was very prominent among the early Baptists, and distinguished for his Christian zeal, usually appointed and conducted the meetings. He died in 1854, at the age of eighty-five.

Previous to 1819, meetings were sometimes held in the small, one-story meeting-house owned by the Congregationalists.

In 1819, a large, brick building was erected, and called a Union Church. The brick for this church was made in the brick-yard on the farm of Elihu Ives, on North Hill. This farm was later known as the Solon I. Atherton place.

The Baptists occupied the Union church nearly one-half of the time. The pews in this church were very high-backed, and the bottoms of the seats were hung on hinges in such a manner that they could be raised, and elevate the occupant so that he could get a better view of the preacher. It was customary for the older people to occupy the back seats, while the children had the front seats, and sat with

their backs to the preacher. The turning over and slamming of those seats during the long, old-fashioned sermons, often made more noise than can be wrenched from the modern railroad car. The spectacle to be seen on those sabbath mornings in the churches of long ago, would be of much interest to the young people of today. The American people were much more productive than they are in this advanced age, when the demands of society make a family an inconvenience to be avoided. In those early days, it was a common sight to see a mother enter the church with a baby under one arm, and, in the winter time, a foot-stove in the other hand. To complete the picture, the next older child came toddling in with a basket of linen for the baby, while the next in order tugged along the basket of lunch, composed of brown bread, baked beans, and the like plain food. The woman who entered the church thus escorted, did so without shame, for her children were her crown of glory. In the summer time, these children, and sometimes even men and women who were fortunate enough to have shoes, carried them in their hands until they arrived at the church door, when they put them on, and wore them till it was time to return home. People had to be economical in foot-wear, as there was no W. L. Douglass to duplicate it at a nominal cost, when worn out.

The first recorded business meeting of the Ludlow Baptists, was held June 23, 1821. At this meeting, the brethren expressed by vote, a desire to be set off as an independent church. This desire was brought about because of the intemperate use of intoxicating liquors by the members of the old Baptist society. Rum and whiskey were taken in exchange for other commodities to such an extent as to cause a division among the members. No further action was taken in this direction until Feb. 2, 1825, when the wish was renewed. At this time, some of the Baptists in Ludlow, were members of the Chester and Andover churches, but the majority belonged to the Cavendish church, and were considered a branch of it. Consent to organize a Baptist church in Ludlow, was obtained of the Woodstock association soon after. This new church was composed of forty members. The first minister who preached here after



the church was organized, was Rev. Joseph Freeman. He was ordained in Ludlow in 1826, and preached alternately in Ludlow and Cavendish, according to the condition of settlement. Each church was to pay toward his salary, one hundred and sixty-five dollars in money, and share equally in the keeping of his horse.

In 1831, Rev. Elias Hurlburt became the pastor, and remained two years. During this time, fifty-three were baptized, and nine added to the church by letter. Rev. J. M. Graves became pastor in 1834, and preached until the formation of the church in 1835, during which time, twenty-one were baptized, and thirteen added by letter.

In the spring of 1835, some of the members of the first Baptist society became dissatisfied, and took a vote to build a new church, and the first business done in relation to it, was to sell the pews that were to be in the new church, to the members that were to form the second Baptist church. The pews were all sold at once, with prices ranging from fifteen to sixty dollars each. One of the members of the old church, Asahel Smith, took an oath that he never would enter the old church building, as long as it was occupied for a church. He thought the society had become so unchristian that God would punish them by causing the building to slide off its foundation into the river below. At that early period, people in general were much more superstitious than they are now. It seems that Mr. Smith's dissatisfaction with the Baptist society, resulted in his becoming interested in the Universalist society at about this time.

June 30, 1835, a council assembled for the purpose of considering the propriety of organizing the church, and Rev. Mr. Graves transferred his relation from the first to the second church, and became its first pastor. The first church closed its connection with the Woodstock Baptist association in 1837. The whole number received into fellowship during the twelve years of its existence, was two hundred and twenty-five.

In 1838, after the first church ceased to be recognized by the association, the second church took the name of The Baptist Church of Ludlow. Rev. J. M. Graves served as pastor one year, and was then dismissed at his own request.



He was succeeded by Rev. D. H. Ranney, who also remained one year. Rev. Wm. Upham was his successor, until May, 1838, when Rev. J. M. Graves returned as pastor the second time. He remained until October, 1840. Up to this date, sixty-five had been baptized into the fellowship of the new church, and thirty-eight had been received by letter. In 1840, Mr. Graves last year of service, the first church of this society was built, at a cost of \$2,024.36. At this time, the Baptist society severed its connection with the old Union church. In March, 1841, Rev. Baxter Burrows was recognized as pastor, and served the church until 1848. During his pastorate, fifty-eight were baptized, most of them after the revival of 1843. There were thirty-five received by letter. Mr. Burrows died in the insane asylum at Brattleboro, at the advanced age of eighty-seven years. In April, 1849, Rev. N. Cudworth became pastor, and served until August, 1852, when he resigned on account of ill health.

In May 1853, Rev. Ira Pearsons commenced his ministerial labors with this church. He remained nineteen years, and during this time, eighty-nine were baptized, and seventy-six were received by letter. The benevolent contributions during this time, amounted to \$3,718.21, of which the pastor paid nearly a tenth part. In 1869, the church was repaired at a cost of \$1828.12.

Mr. Pearsons was a very able preacher, a man of simple unpretending habits, and much beloved by his parishioners. He was not only himself endowed with Christian principles, but had a natural power to spread the light of Christianity in his community. In his eighty-first year, he resigned his charge with this church, and removed to Newport, N. H., where he died in August, 1882.

Rev. J. P. Farrar commenced his ministry in Ludlow, in June 1872, and continued nearly six years, leaving Ludlow, in poor health, for Lynn, Mass. During his ministry, ninety-two united with the church, sixty-five by baptism, and twenty-seven by letter. During Mr. Farrar's connection with the society, it became the largest church of the Woodstock Association. The highest number of members was two hundred and twenty-three. The benevolent contribu-

tions amounted to \$2,576.29. The largest sum of any associational year, was \$545.30.

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In June, 1878, Rev. J. A. Johnston became the pastor, and remained three years. He was a very able and effective speaker. During his pastorate, nine were received into the church by baptism, and sixteen by letter. Oct. 5, 1878, J. Mervin Hull, one of Ludlow's favorite sons, was licensed to preach the gospel.

After Mr. Johnston closed his labors with the church, Rev. L. B. Hibbard was the supply for a few months. In September, 1882, Rev. J. B. Childs became pastor, and served the church until May, 1884. In July, 1884, Rev. R. L. Olds commenced his ministry, and continued until March 1890. During his ministry, fifty-four were baptized, and twenty-four united with the church by letter.

Oct. 19, 1890, Rev. D. D. Owen became pastor, and served his parishioners faithfully till Sept. 1, 1898.

In August, 1888, at a meeting of the advisory committee of the church, Pastor R. L. Olds propounded the following question: "Are you in favor of building an \$8,000 meeting-house?" Five voted "Yes", two voted "No". This vote was submitted to the church on the first of September, but no action was taken, as the figures were startling. Feb. 19, 1890, E. P. Kingsbury moved that the secretary of the Baptist society be requested to call a meeting in March, to see if the society would improve the condition of the meeting-house. In the same year, the Baptist Church of Ludlow was incorporated under the laws of Vermont, and later secured the ownership of all the property belonging to the three societies, namely: The Baptist Society, The Baptist Meeting-house Society, and The Baptist Church, and two of the societies became extinct. This highly important action of the church, prepared the way for an advance.

Jan. 31, 1891, the church voted that Pastor Owen associate with himself, such helpers as he needed, and prepare estimates of the cost of repairing the old house of worship. April 4, 1891, the church informally expressed itself in favor of free seats, when the house should be repaired or rebuilt. At a special church meeting, April 25, 1891, Pastor Owen presented a plan for reconstructing



the old church building, with drawings of the remodeled edifice. Previous to this, Dea. J. A. Dennett had employed an architect to make a plan which he presented to the consideration of the church. The estimated cost of remodeling by either plan, was from four to five thousand dollars. A committee was appointed to solicit funds to repair the building upon the plan which had been submitted by Pastor Owen, namely: Rev. D. D. Owen, Hon. W. W. Stickney, Dea. J. A. Dennett, L. G. Pierce, and A. F. Sherman. May 24, 1891, they voted to call a meeting and appoint a building committee to take charge of the work. Two days later, the following committee were elected: Rev. D. D. Owen, chairman, Hon. W. W. Stickney, Chas. S. Parker, Geo. W. Billings, and Hon. Wm. H. Walker. It was voted that the committee obtain specifications for reconstruction. July 12, 1891, they voted to call a meeting to hear the report of the building committee, and see if the church would approve of the same. On the following day, the meeting convened pursuant to the above call. Chairman Owen reported as follows: "The building committee of the Baptist Church of Ludlow, recommend that a new edifice be erected at a cost of \$7,000. The report was laid on the table. It was then voted to instruct the committee before appointed to raise funds, for repairs, to proceed to raise \$7,000 to build a new church. Aug. 1, 1891, on motion of Delos Bachelder, the church voted to instruct the building committee to enter immediately upon the work of providing a new house of worship. March 5, 1892, the committee presented a plan for a \$7,000 church, drawn by the architect, Geo. H. Guernsey, of Montpelier. The committee reported that they could not contract the job by this plan, at anything less than \$9,000. It was moved by S. U. King, that the building committee be instructed to go ahead with the building of the house, on the basis of \$9,000. The motion was seconded by Chas. H. Ray, and carried without opposition. April 2, 1892, the contract was given to the Ripley Lumber Co., of Poultney, Vt., to build a new church for \$9,000. April 10, 1892, a farewell service was held in the old church, and early in this month, the old church, after a half-century of usefulness, was demolished, to make room for a more modern successor.



There was much sorrow in many hearts, as the old church was taken down, piece by piece, each having fulfilled its mission of special usefulness through long years of service, in the place where it had been placed by faithful hands. This old house of worship had stood at its time-honored post, through many changes, both in Ludlow and the whole nation. It was the birthplace of many souls who were taught their sinfulness within its hallowed walls, where the light from heaven and God first entered their hearts, to direct them to their heavenly home. Many were the voices raised in humble appeal from the old pulpit, for God to remove sinfulness from the heart of man. Many a blooming bride was brought to the old altar, to seal the matrimonial bond, and passed on to fulfil the sacred duties to which she there pledged herself. Many a mourning heart found comfort here though a chair in the home circle remained vacant. Sabbath after sabbath, through sunshine and storm, the old church bell rang out its warning call, and when the death angel called home a soul, the bell tolled forth the solemn tidings to the world, with the age and sex of the departed one. This custom has now gone out of practice, and to those who do not remember the custom, an explanation may be necessary.

The bell was first swung clear over, then a pause was made to allow the reverberations to die away, then the toll was repeated, with a second pause. Then, if the deceased was a male, the bell was struck three times three strokes, with pauses between the threes, and if it was for a female, three times two strokes. Then, after another pause, the age was struck by single strokes, with sufficient pauses between the strokes to allow the sound to die away. In especially sickly times, it would often happen that some one of the church bells in the village, would sound the toll for the dead every day in the week. The first bell of the Baptist church, sent forth in sad tones, its expression of the sorrow of the society and the community, in the death of the nation's great martyr, Abraham Lincoln.

A few years afterward, this bell became cracked, and a new and heavier-toned bell was purchased, and is still in use in the church.

May 24, 1892, the society added three members to the building committee, L. G. Fullam, A. F. Sherman, and Prescott Adams. The new church was completed early in 1893, at a cost of \$11,079.52, and was dedicated Aug. 9, 1893.

This church is a very fine edifice, one of the finest of its size in the state. The architecture is of no special order, but is a combination of various designs. The main entrance is in the north-east corner, directly under the main or bell tower, and leads through a vestibule directly into the audience room on the second floor. There is also an entrance from the east side on the first floor, and from this, winding stairs lead up to the audience-room. The direct entrance to the vestry is from this front vestibule. On the south-east corner of the building, is a second tower, smaller than the bell-tower, which is nearly all occupied by the stairway from the first to the second floor. The outside of the building is very tastefully finished throughout. Nearly one half is shingled with ornamental pine and cedar shingles, and the remainder is finished with clapboards, with the exception of the base of the main tower, which is sheathed with pine sheathing. The roof is slated.

The audience-room, which is beautifully frescoed, the vestibules, and the stairways, are finished in brown ash, filled to show the natural grain of the wood. The seats are of oak, also finished in the natural wood, and are set in a half-circle. They are very pretty and comfortable. The pulpit is oak, and was presented by David Robbins of Detroit, Mich. It is the work of an artist. The pulpit chairs, three in number, were given by Mrs. M. Bronson, in memory of Roswell Smith. The chandelier was put in by Gilbert Barker and Co., of Springfield, Mass. It gives a very powerful light, having thirty-six jets. This was paid for by the ladies of the society. The pipe-organ is the one that was used in the old church. The vestry and ladies' parlor are finished with plain finish, but are very pleasant, home-like rooms, tastefully arranged.

Three memorial windows of colored glass, form a fine feature of the audience room. The window on the east side, facing the park, was given by Merrill Gassett of Wor-



cester, Mass. In the center, a cross and crown are shown. The south window was presented by Mrs. Willard Johnson, and in it, an anchor is represented. The north window was presented by the descendants of Dea. Andrew Pettigrew, and represents an open Bible. All these windows are artistic productions, and were very generous gifts, highly appreciated by the society. The result of their efforts must be very gratifying to the projectors and donors of this work. The society at that time was in a prosperous condition, and had about one hundred and ninety members.

Rev. Mr. Owen was succeeded by Rev. H. E. Thayer, Dec. 11, 1898, who closed his pastorate Dec. 1, 1904.

Since that date, the church has continued under the pastorate of Rev. E. L. Bayliss, May 14, 1905, to Dec. 31, 1910, Rev. J. H. Thompson, June 1, 1911, to Nov. 1, 1913, Rev. H. H. Stetson, Jan. 4, 1914, to Feb. 23, 1919, Rev. W. B. Chase, May 1, 1919, to Sept. 9, 1923, and Rev. H. B. Rankin, Dec. 1, 1923, to the present time.

### **The Universalist Church**

As early as 1810, there were a few Universalists in town, and they sometimes held meetings on South Hill, at the house of Abel Haild, commonly known as Squire Haild. These meetings were usually conducted by Rev. Warren Skinner of Cavendish. The house where these meetings were held, was built about 1808 by Mr. Haild, and was afterward occupied by his son-in-law, Thomas Whitcomb.

The first Universalist society in Ludlow held its first meeting Oct. 8, 1835, Asahel Smith being chosen moderator, and Pliny Parker, clerk. The permanent organization was completed by the adoption of a constitution and articles of faith. Nov. 14, 1835, the sum of \$1,200 was subscribed for the erection of a church edifice, by the following persons: Pliny Parker, Jacob Patrick, Asahel Smith, Eben Spear, Artemas Arnold, Roswell Smith, Andrew Johnson, Jerry Gilbert, Ira Wiley, Thomas Whitcomb, Merrick Spafford, Sewall Fullam, Jr., Abel Haild, Pratt & Bowers, Cyrus Baker, Phineas Spaulding, Abram Adams, John Stimson, Horace Keyes, Frederick Wyman, H. H. Carey, Enos Estabrook, and Zebulon Spaulding.



For a building committee, Abram Adams, Phineas Spaulding and Asahel Smith were appointed, and the building lot was purchased of Abram Adams. It was deeded to Asahel Smith and Phineas W. Spaulding, May 2, 1836, the consideration being two hundred dollars. The contract was immediately let to erect the edifice. Roswell Smith of Windsor, Vt., had the contract for the mason work. The wood work was taken by Wm. B. Pratt and Varnum Bowers. The church was finished at a cost of about \$6,000, and dedicated June 16, 1837. Many small subscriptions were received from people of the Universalist faith, and pews were sold to raise money to be applied to the building fund. The pews were first placed in the church, facing the entrance doors, but this arrangement not being satisfactory, they were, in 1847, turned around facing the pulpit.

There does not appear to have been a settled preacher until 1839, when Rev. Joseph Hemphill was installed, and remained till 1844. Previous to his pastorate, Rev. Warren Skinner and others supplied from 1837 to 1839. Following Mr. Hemphill, came Rev. N. C. Hodgdon, from 1844 to 1846. Rev. John A. Henry, who came next, died Dec. 15, 1847. Then followed Rev. Joseph O. Skinner, 1848 to 1851, Rev. H. H. Baker, 1852 to 1855, Rev. E. S. Foster, 1856 to 1858, Rev. Wm. S. Balch, Apr. 1858 to Jan. 1863, Rev. James T. Powers, 1870 to May 1, 1874, Rev. Herbert E. Whitney, Dec. 5, 1875, to Sept. 19, 1880, Rev. Wm. A. Pratt, from Sept. 26, 1880, to Feb. 26, 1882, Rev. Joseph S. Gledhill, from Apr. 2, 1882, to December, 1883. Then Rev. A. A. Rice supplied till April, 1884. After him came Rev. John P. Eastman, from June 22, 1884, to Jan. 3, 1886, Rev. A. J. Aubrey, from May 1, 1886, to Dec. 25, 1887, Rev. Joseph R. Roblin, from July 15, 1888, to July 1, 1889, Rev. John B. Reardon, from Oct. 1, 1889, to 1891, Rev. J. F. Howard, from Nov. 1891, to Jan. 1, 1893, Rev. Herbert O. Maxham, from Apr. 30, 1893 to Apr. 30, 1897. Rev. John B. Reardon returned Oct. 3, 1897, and closed his pastorate June 14, 1903. Rev. A. E. Russell came Sept. 1, 1903.

The Universalist Society was incorporated under the state laws, May 8, 1888. In 1900, the society decided to build a new church. The farewell sermon was preached in

the old church, Apr. 7, 1901. This church stood just west of the Fletcher Memorial Library, and as its site was desired by Mr. Allen M. Fletcher for a lawn for the library building, it was exchanged for a lot which he purchased on Main street, off the west side of the old, Reuben Washburn place. A new church built of brick was erected in 1901, at a cost of about \$8,000. The material of the old church was allowed the contractor for use in the construction of the new building. This church was very thoroughly built. The parlors in the basement were cosy and finely finished in natural wood. The audience room was elegantly finished in cypress. Feb. 2, 1902, the first services were held in the audience-room of the new church, conducted by the pastor, but the service of dedication was not performed till July 16, 1902.

Rev. Addison E. Russell closed his pastorate in 1905. Following him came:

Rev. Roy E. Griffith, 1906 to 1910,  
Rev. Fred LeRoy Payson, 1910 to 1912,  
Rev. Lester L. Lewis, 1915 to 1917,  
Rev. Alvin M. Smith, 1917 to 1921.

Later, the membership became so small that meetings were discontinued in 1925. In December 1929, the church building was given and deeded to Black River Academy.

### **The Methodist Episcopal Church**

There were a few believers in this faith in Ludlow, as early as 1810, but not a sufficient number for the formation of a society. However, about 1814, a few members from Ludlow, joined the Methodist class of Andover. The class flourished well for a few years, until a dispute arose as to the merits of Mr. Rufus Barton's Christian character. At that time, Mr. Barton, grandfather of Horace and Wesley Barton later well known in Ludlow, lived just in the edge of Andover, south-west of the old Jonathan Hemenway place, in what is now pasture known as the Ellis lot. One sabbath it snowed hard, and Mr. Barton who had just built a new log barn, stayed at home from church to put in the



stanchions, so that he might stable his cattle from the storm. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Manning, did not approve of this act, so a vote was taken for the purpose of expelling Mr. Barton from the church. But being better liked in the community than the pastor, he was not expelled, but there was so much feeling in the matter that the class was broken up, and some of the Ludlow members then joined the church at Proctorsville. Meetings were sometimes held in town in school-houses, and even out-of-doors, and Elder Shaw presided. Later, he removed to Mt. Tabor. In that town, there is a place called "The Devil's Den." Mr. Shaw had two sons, very wild boys, who were possessed to go to this place to play on Sundays. The elder, not approving of it, forbade their going there. One Sunday, Mr. Shaw went to Weston to preach, and when he returned, questioned the boys to know if they had been to the forbidden place. The eldest boy replied that they had. "Well", said Mr. Shaw, "was the devil at home?" "No," said the boy, "we saw him going toward Weston to preach." It is said that the poor old man worried so much over the bad behavior of his undutiful sons, that he became deranged in the last years of his life. Close observation shows that the strong points of a man's character, whether for good or bad, are often developed in two-fold strength in his offspring.

As early as 1840, Rev. Mr. Leonard and Rev. Mr. Pier held religious services in Ludlow. The present society was organized in 1872. At this time, twelve members withdrew from the Proctorsville church, and became members of this church. Their names were: Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Chapman, Celia Pratt, Mrs. B. F. Pettigrew, Mrs. S. L. White, Homer W. Parker, Albert B. Riggs, Mrs. Martin Bailey, Chas. W. Hemenway, and Mrs. Lucy Fuller.

The present church was built in 1875, at an expense of \$7,200, including the grounds. The church was repaired in 1895, the repairs including the slating of the roof. The church was dedicated Dec. 22, 1875.

When the present society was organized, Rev. N. F. Perry became the first pastor, Apr. 1, 1872, and remained



till Apr. 1, 1875. Rev. Lyman E. Rockwell was pastor from 1875 to 1877. Rev. Geo. F. Buckley took charge as pastor in April, 1877, and remained one year, after whom came Rev. F. H. Roberts in May, 1878, and remained till 1880. In the spring of 1880, Rev. A. J. Hough took up his labors with this church, and remained till 1882. He was as able a speaker as this society ever had, and was also one of Vermont's finest poets.

Rev. Elihu Snow came in 1882, and remained till 1885 when he was succeeded by Rev. W. D. Malcolm who remained till 1887. Next came Rev. E. E. Reynolds, and remained till 1892. He was followed by Rev. Richard Morgan, who was pastor only a few months, being instantly killed by being thrown from a carriage. Rev. W. A. Bryant acted as supply till 1894. The following have served this church from that time till the present year, 1931.

Rev. A. E. Atwater, 1894 to 1896,  
Rev. G. H. Sisson, 1896 to 1898,  
Rev. J. E. Badger, 1898 to 1900,  
Rev. X. M. Fowler, 1900 to 1904,  
Rev. W. E. Allen, 1904 to 1906,  
Rev. Frederick A. Woodworth, Apr. 1906 to 1911,  
Rev. Urban H. Layton, 1911 to Sept. 1911,  
Rev. J. Cecil Hayes, Sept. 1911, to Apr. 1913,  
Rev. Ashfield Ashford, Apr. 1913, to Apr. 1914,  
Rev. Harrison, supply, Apr. 1914 to June 1914,  
Rev. Frederick C. Robinson, June 1914 to Apr. 1916,  
Rev. Edw. Forrest Wood, Apr. 1916 to Apr. 1919,  
Rev. Francis T. Clark, Apr. 1919 to Apr. 1920,  
Rev. Harold M. Hayward, Apr. 1920 to Apr. 1922,  
Rev. Geo. R. Akers, Apr. 1922 to Oct. 1925,  
Rev. Buell O. Campbell, Oct. 1925 to Sept. 1926,  
Rev. Geo. H. Sutherland, Sept. 1926 to Dec. 1927,  
Rev. J. Roy Dinsmore, Dec. 1927 to Apr. 1928,  
Rev. Geo. C. Westcot, Apr. 1928 to Apr. 1930,  
Rev. Norman M. Moss, Apr. 1930.

In April, 1930, the Congregationalists and Methodists united in their work and became known as The United

Church of Ludlow. At the present time (1931), the membership of the Methodist is 108.

Alva Sprafford was the first one to be baptized into the Methodist church in this town, Aug. 6, 1871.

Following are the names of those born and brought up in Ludlow, who have become ministers of the gospel: Wat-tos, son of Capt. John Warren, Congregationalist, Henry, son of Ephraim Warren, Universalist, Richard and Mar-cellus, sons of Stephen Wright, Congregationalist, Eph-raim, son of Zachariah Spaulding, Congregationalist, Ora, son of Joseph Taylor, Baptist, Albert, son of Calvin Riggs, Methodist, John Mervin, son of Dea. John Hull, Baptist, Henry M., son of M. H. Goddard, Congregationalist, Charles L., son of Asa Lawrence, Methodist, Wm. P., son of Patrick Crosby, Roman Catholic, and Henry C., son of F. C. Robbins, Baptist. The last was not born here, but came to Ludlow when an infant.

### **The Church of the Annunciation**

This church was organized July 23, 1876. There were, at that time, about three hundred members. The church edifice had been erected at a cost of about seven thousand dollars, and was dedicated on the same day on which the society was organized. Previous to the erection of this church, the Roman Catholics in town attended divine ser-vices at Proctorsville or Springfield, Vt., usually at Proc-torsville.

The first settled pastor of this church, was Rev. J. C. McLaughlin, who remained until 1881. He was succeeded by Rev. Henry Lane, who continued here till 1885. In that year, Rev. Patrick J. Houlihan took charge of the parish, which includes Mt. Holly, Springfield, and Ludlow. He was succeeded in 1899 by Rev. Michael Carmody, who closed his work here Oct. 18, 1904, and was followed by Rev. Jerome Gelot, who died Dec. 5, 1904. Following him were:

Rev. John W. Dwyer, Jan. 1905 to Nov. 1913,  
Rev. John J. Cullion, Nov. 1913 to Aug. 1919,  
Rev. John M. Kennedy, Aug. 1919 to Mar. 1928,  
Rev. Joseph H. McCarthy, Mar. 1928 to Sept. 1928,  
Rev. Patrick A. Barry, Sept. 1928.



The present Catholic population of Ludlow is 508.

The steeple of the church, a single spire running up to a considerable height, was twice saluted by a passing thunderbolt, and was badly damaged the second time, in 1885. The present parsonage was built in 1893, and is one of the finest and most substantial residences in town. It is built of brick, elegantly finished, and has most of the modern improvements.

## SCHOOLS

It was eighteen years after the coming of the first settlers to Ludlow, before a school-house was built. The cause of this delay was that the inhabitants were so thinly scattered over the township, and many of them so poor that there was neither capital nor pupils to insure the support of schools. As time went on, however, and the population increased, it was understood by the hardy pioneers that their children must learn to read, write, and manage successfully, those ten mysterious characters that even up all balances between men, in all the walks of life, in every civilized country of the world. As the Ten Commandments form the foundation on which is built the character of the Christian man, so these ten figures are the basis of all business transactions, and nothing is put into more practical use than they are. With all the science and inventive powers of the present time, nothing has been invented to surpass them in usefulness, and they have remained as unchanged as the laws of nature in the laws that govern their use, since they were passed on for the use of the civilized world, from the far-away land of the Hindoos, through the gate-way of Arabia.

In 1801, the residents of North Hill petitioned the selectmen of the town to organize a school, and on April 10, 1801, the first school-meeting was held, conducted by the selectmen of the town, Jesse Fletcher and Elihu Ives. Capt. Lewis Caldwell was chosen moderator and collector, and Orlando Whitney, clerk and committee. It was voted to raise sixty-six dollars to build a school-house, to be twenty feet by twenty-four, one story high, with a four-gabled roof. This was the first school-house erected in Ludlow, and, until recently,

still stood where its founders placed it. The remains of it may still be seen just above the four-corners of the North Hill highway.

In December of the same year, a special school-meeting was held, at which a vote was taken to raise one cent on the dollar of the grand list, to defray the current expenses of the school for the ensuing year.



The First School House, 1801

At the next annual meeting, held April 21, 1802, it was voted to raise ten dollars to pay the expenses of the school for that year. It was also voted that each scholar should furnish two feet of wood for the school. If the wood was not delivered on or before the first day of school the scholar was to be expelled from the school. It was carried still further by vote of the meeting, that any scholar who should break a pane of glass in one of the windows, or in any way damage the school-house, should repair the damage.

In this year, there were fifty-seven scholars, in 1806, there were sixty-five, and in 1808, the number of scholars who gathered at the little school-house to learn the rudiments of school knowledge, had increased to seventy.

At the annual school-meeting, Feb. 22, 1810, it was voted that money should be raised on the polls from four to



eighteen years of age. This will be seen to have been a very burdensome law for the poor people who had large families of children of school age, as they had all the school taxes to pay, while the rich man without children of school age, was not taxed for the support of schools. At this meeting the teacher's board was bid off at eighty cents per week.

At another school-meeting, March 16, 1821, it was voted that the inhabitants of that district should take turns, and board the teacher free of charge, and at a meeting held in 1833, it was voted to have three men for a committee instead of one. Charles Ives, Merrick Spafford, and Jephtha Spaulding were elected.

March 23, 1837, it was voted to raise five cents on the dollar of the grand list. For many years after this time, the school was supported at a nominal cost, while many bright young men and women here in this little school-house, laid the foundation of their education.

In 1804, a small school-house was built in what was called the Upper District, now known as No. 5, in Grahamsville. It stood north of where Gilman Horton now lives, just over his north line east of the highway. This school-house was burned about 1818. Some of the boys in the neighborhood filled the old fashioned fire-place and chimney with dry spruce brush, and set it on fire. The chimney was heated so hot that it set fire to the building.

About 1820, another school-house was built in this district, on the site where the present one stands. Miss Mary Tilden taught school here in 1830. Below, we give a facsimile of the certificate under which she taught. Further

*This may certify that we have examined  
Miss Mary Tilden, as the Statute requires, and think  
her qualified to instruct in all the branches  
usually taught in common district  
schools.*

*Ludlow, June 22, 1830*

*James Bead*  
*Fred. S. Gamson*  
*Wherton Hall*  
*Sewall Fullam*  
*Rufus N. Barton*

*Super-  
tending  
Committee*

reference to Miss Tilden will be found in the history of South Hill Cemetery.

This second school-house was also burned, in the fall of 1850. The teacher and scholars had gathered there one evening, to have a singing-school. Late in the evening, a big fire was built for the purpose of popping corn, and shortly after the young people had gone home, in some unknown way the building took fire and was burned. At that time, there were a hundred scholars in this district, many of them being Irish children whose fathers were employed in building the railroad. The present school-house was built in 1851.

School district No. 4 was first called the Fourth District, South Hill. The voters of that district met in school-meeting for the purpose of organizing a lawful school district, Mar. 27, 1804. Arioch Smith, then one of the selectmen, was in attendance, and was chosen moderator, George Adams, clerk, Capt. John Warren, Samuel Hemenway, and William Tenney, committee, and Andrew Pettigrew, collector. It seems by the records, that a school-house was in process of construction, previous to the above date, as a vote was taken at this meeting, to finish the school-house, the material and work to be given to the lowest bidder. This school-house stood west of the road, on the line between the farms once owned by S. S. Mayo, and Charles Hemenway.

At this school-meeting, it was also voted to raise thirty-four dollars to defray the expenses of finishing the school house. The seventh article in the warrant, was to see if the inhabitants of said district would agree to receive Leonard Ross and Andrew Pettigrew as members of the Fourth District. They then lived farther south, Mr. Pettigrew where George Dumas now lives, and Leonard Ross on the Silas Johnson farm.

At the annual school-meeting held Jan. 14, 1805, it was voted that people who lived out of the district, sending scholars to this school, should pay ten cents per week for each scholar, and the money should be equally divided among those who had no scholars to send. The philosophy of this is difficult to see, unless it was intended to discourage



the increase of the population. The school-house was moved from where it first stood, to its present location, in 1834.

In 1823, the Fourth District was divided, by taking off the west side of the district, forming district No. 12. Asahel Smith, Avery Adams, and Artemas Spafford, the selectmen at that time, met at the house of Putnam Bates, April 8, 1823, for the purpose of organizing the twelfth school district. At this school meeting, William Wales was chosen moderator, and John Snell clerk. Samuel Hemingway, Putnam Bates, and William Wales, were the first board of committee for the district. Mr. Bates then lived on the farm later known as the Darius Gassett farm, now owned by Frank Moore. The school-meetings, as well as the schools, were held at the house of William Wales, who then lived in a small house standing on the cross-road opposite the place where W. H. H. Chapman formerly lived.

A school-house was finally built of brick in 1825. It stood west of the road, near the south line of the Putnam Bates farm. The brick used in the construction of this school-house, was hauled by team from Mt. Holly. In 1827, a vote was taken that one shilling should be levied from each scholar attending the school. The last school held in the old school-house, was in 1861, and the district was reverted to district No. 4, district No. 12 ceasing to be a district by itself.

In 1805, a school-house was built in district No. 6, North Hill, then known as the Northeastern District, but the first school-meeting recorded as held in that district, was March 23, 1812. Jonas Dunn was chosen moderator, Jesse Marshall, clerk, and Phineas Spaulding, Jonathan Whitcomb, and John Davidson were chosen committee, and Phineas Spaulding, collector. There are no other records until 1826.

The first school-house built, stood in the bend of the highway, opposite the place still known as the Calvin Whitney place. It was a four-gabled structure, similar in design to the one in district No. 2. At a school-meeting held Dec. 17, 1855, it was voted to build a new school-house, which was to stand nine rods east of the old one, on the road leading to Proctorsville. The old school-house was sold to E. S. Whitcomb for six dollars and a half.

The building of this second school-house produced some unpleasantness in the district, as the vote for this expense was carried by a majority of only one. This feeling continued somewhat for more than twenty years, occasioning several unsuccessful attempts to disorganize the district. The school-house was burned on the night of the second of December, 1877. The source of the fire was never known, but many believed it to be the work of an incendiary. Shortly after, a special town meeting was called for a final attempt to dismember the district, when the projector, failing to receive the support of one vote, ceased his efforts in that direction.

Another school-house was built in 1878, at a cost of two hundred and twenty-five dollars. It stands about ten rods south of the site of the first school-house, on the road leading to Ludlow Village. It was thoroughly repaired in 1895, and the latest improved seats put in. The last school-meeting held in this district was Mar. 29, 1892.

In 1805, a school was organized on East Hill. For a few years, the school was kept in a small log house. In 1815, a better school-house was erected. It stood nearly on the north line of the farm known as the Major Spaulding place later owned by Fred Smith who turned the farm into a strawberry field yielding great profits on the investment. Schools were held in the school-house till 1863.

In 1810, a school-house was built on South Hill near Smokeshire. Schools were kept there till about 1830.

The first school-meeting held in Black River Lower District, Smithville, later district No. 9, for the purpose of organizing a school, was on Mar. 27, 1806. The meeting was held at the house of Avery Denison. He then lived in a small house that stood where the house owned by Plumley & Sargent now stands. Jesse Fletcher was chosen moderator and clerk. It was voted to build a school-house that year. It was built, and stood on the site of the present one. W. Cady was the first teacher.

At a meeting held Dec. 25, 1809, it was voted to hire W. Cady to teach the winter school at twelve dollars per month for three months. He "boarded around", and warmed up the spare beds of the good housewives in the neighborhood. In 1810, the school-house was burned, and from that



time till 1822, an article was put into the school warrant, to build a new one. After twelve years of dallying with the question, they succeeded in agreeing, and voted to build a brick school-house. The contract was given to Jesse Fletcher, at two hundred and twenty-five dollars, to be paid partly in money and partly in grain, but this vote was revoked, and a special meeting was called, at which it was voted to build a wooden school-house. The work was contracted to Joseph Eaton at twenty-three dollars. This building is standing at the present time.

In 1813, the district voted to hire Wm. Sargent to teach the summer school of that year, and to pay him a dollar and seventy-five cents per week, he to take his pay in grain, either rye or corn, at fifty cents per bushel. In the years between 1810 and 1822, the school in this district was kept in private houses. Previous to 1816, this district also included the village, which, at that time, was located entirely north of the river. In addition to the teachers' names already given, we give a list of the teachers, as complete as could be obtained. Miss Alintha Griswold, Miss Sally Searles, Miss Chloe Wilder, (afterwards married to another teacher, James Beard, who owned the farm in Grahamsville formerly owned by Josiah Wilder. They were the parents of Alanson Beard, formerly Collector of Customs of the Port of Boston). Miss Lois Denison, (resident of Smithville, afterward married Jephtha Spaulding, a farmer who, for many years, lived on North Hill), Miss Roxana Ives, (daughter of Capt. Elihu Ives, afterwards married Jonathan Atherton of Cavendish). Alvah Clark, a student of Middlebury College, taught here in 1814.

Many other faithful teachers have done good work in this school, and during its one hundred and twenty-one years of existence, hundreds of children have trod the paths from their homes to the little school-houses that have stood on this spot. Probably, more than half have ended this life's journey, and entered the school of eternal life, while others are toiling on to the goal of fame or riches, or struggling to obtain even a simple livelihood.

District No. 8, known at this time as the Barton district, was formerly called the Southwestern district. The first school-meeting held in this district for the purpose of or-

ganizing a school, was at the house of Jesse Smith, Oct. 2, 1806. Jesse Fletcher and Asahel Smith, selectmen, were present at the meeting. The house of Jesse Smith stood southwest of the Charles Esty home, on land formerly owned by Jonathan Hemenway. Hezekiah Haven was chosen moderator, Jesse Smith, clerk, Ephraim Puffer, Daniel Wheaton, and Elijah Chamberlin, committee, and Thomas Evans, collector of taxes.

Another meeting was held at Mr. Smith's house, Dec. 8, 1806, to see if the district would vote to have a winter school. A vote was given in favor of having one month's school, to be held at Ephrim Puffer's house. At this time, he lived west of that part of the road leading from Ludlow to Weston, now known as Orchard Hill. The house stood near where the butternut tree stands. Mr. Puffer was to furnish the firewood for the school, free of charge, and the teacher was to board one week with Mr. Puffer, one with Jesse Smith, one with Hezekiah Haven, and one with Jacob Hemenway.

Mar. 17, 1807, the residents held a meeting at the house of Jesse Smith. It was voted to have six weeks schooling, the school to be kept at the house of Elijah Chamberlin. The district voted to furnish two books for the use of the school. Mr. Chamberlin lived east of the road above Will Rock's house, just before entering the "dug-way" road.

At a school-meeting held Jan. 29, 1808, at the house of Daniel Wheaton, Hezekiah Haven, Jacob Hemenway, and John Hill were chosen a committee to ascertain where the center of the district was, and make arrangements to build a log school-house. At this meeting it was voted to have two months' schooling, the school to be held at the house of Daniel Wheaton, who lived in a house that stood in the Charles Esty meadow, east of the highway, and opposite Mr. Esty's house. The idea of building a school-house was given up at that time. In June, 1813, a vote was taken to build a frame house at the foot of the path leading from the highway to Jesse Smith's house. The path joined the road near Charles Esty's house, and the school-house was to stand near the large hemlock tree that stood near the path at that time. These plans could not be carried out, but after twelve years of agitation and wrangling, an



agreement was reached in 1818, and a school-house, eighteen feet by twenty, was built in the corner of the roads, north of the road leading over Bear Hill. The land was given by Simon Cobb, and the lumber and other building material was sold at auction to the lowest bidder, who was to take his pay in grain, Jan. 1, 1819. The lumber was furnished at six dollars per thousand. The window glass, sixty panes of seven by nine, was furnished by David Emery at seven cents per pane.

In 1832, the school-house was moved from its first site to the Rufus Barton farm, later owned by Wesley Barton, and stood west of the brook, and east of the road as it then ran past Mr. Barton's house. It stood up the stream a few rods from where the present school-house stands, on the opposite side of the brook.

In the winter of 1843, Rufus Barton, Jr., taught the school, and among the scholars was one, Joseph Gould, who was as large as an ordinary man, and fancied that he could run the school affairs better than the teacher could. Mr. Barton thinking to the contrary, one day called Joseph out, and feruled him with a large wooden ruler. After the job was done, Joseph took his seat, and, spitting on his hand, remarked to one of his school-mates, "He didn't blister my hand." Thereupon, Mr. Barton called him out the second time, and put on the required blister, as large as a silver dollar. In those days, the winter schools as well as the scholars were large, and it required much pluck and perseverance on the part of the teachers, to keep order.

In 1844, the old school-house was sold to Martin Snell, he taking it in part payment toward building a new school-house. This one stood west of the road from where the first one stood. In 1867, the present school-house was built, and the old one was sold to Seneca Haven, who took it down and moved it to where Calvin Pollard now lives. It is the ell to that house. In 1840, there were usually from sixty to ninety scholars in this district. At the present time (1931), there are but eleven children enrolled in this school, all others in the district being in attendance in the village schools. This change has been caused in part, by many of the old farms being vacated.

In 1806, a school-house was built on South Hill, on the

west side of the road, about half way up the hill, south of where Horace Wadleigh formerly lived. The first school-meeting held in this district was on Jan. 14, 1806, at the house of Thomas Ross, who then lived on the Horace Wadleigh farm. John Warren, one of the selectmen, was present at the meeting. They chose Andrew Pettigrew, moderator, and then adjourned till the seventeenth day of the same month, when they again met, and elected Thomas Ross, clerk and trustee, and Andrew Pettigrew, Leonard Ross, and Amos Wheaton, committee. At this meeting, the district was called the south-east district. In 1839, it was called No. 10.

In 1821, a stove was put into this school-house, it being the first one put into any school-house in town. In 1829, the old school-house went out of use, and a new one was built on the site of the present one. This was taken down and another built in 1860. Again, in 1929, the school-house was taken down and a new one built, standing a few rods north from where the old one stood. The attendance in the early days of the district was large, while there are but few scholars there now.

The first school records of District No. 7, the Pond district, are not to be found, therefore it can not be ascertained in just what year the first school-house was built, but it is said to have been erected about 1806, and stood on the spot occupied by the present one, excepting that it stood the width of the building farther south nearer to the highway. The present school-house was built by contract in 1877, by Samuel L. Pinney, at a cost to the district of two hundred and sixty dollars. This school-house went out of use about 1880.

About 1840, a small school-house was built on North Hill, east of the highway, a little distance south-east of where Elisha Johnson formerly lived. The records of this school have been destroyed, so exact dates can not be given. Schools are said to have been held there only a few years. The building was moved about forty rods east, and used for a dwelling-house.

The school-house on Andover street, known as No. 15, was built by Alfred Warner in 1856. Mr. Warner then lived at the place that was later the residence of E. P. Kingsbury,



and at that time the highway was where the school-house now stands. Mr. Warner gave the land for straightening the highway, so that the school-house could be built where the highway was then located. At the annual town meeting in March, 1880, it was voted to unite District No. 15 with District No. 1, each school to retain its number. This caused some hard feeling on the part of the residents of No. 15, as it made their school taxes very much higher, and brought considerable of their real estate under the corporation tax. This school was discontinued in 1890.

In 1816, a small, four-gabled brick school-house was built in Ludlow village. It stood north of the Baptist church, on the site of the house where Mrs. Benjamin Spaulding formerly lived. For several years after this school-house was built, this district was called the Center district. This school-house was used for school purposes seventeen years. Stephen Cummings, afterward one of the leading business men in town, taught the school for some time. He was succeeded by Edward Manning. John Crowley, Ardain G. Taylor, Sewall Fullam, Wm. Rodney Manning, and James Beard, were teachers in this school.

One of the above-mentioned teachers one day put out the word "tresses" to one of the spelling classes and a small boy spelled it "tress-ses". The teacher asked him if he ever saw a word in which there were three s's in succession. "Yes", replied the boy "What was it?" inquired the teacher. "S. S. Snell" was the answer. He had seen the name on the sign of a shoemaker whose name was Simon Sigman Snell.

Abram Adams bought the school-house in 1834. It was used as a store-house for several years afterward.

The first school-meeting held in the village south of the river, for the purpose of building a school-house, was on Jan. 28, 1833. Silas Warren was chosen moderator, and the session was then adjourned for two days, when the meeting was again called to order. Ardain G. Taylor was elected moderator, Amos Heald, Joel Gould, and Ptolemy Edson were made committee for the purpose of selecting a suitable place for the proposed school-house. A subsequent meeting was held, when Joseph White, Jesse Adams, and Samuel Adams were added to the board of committee. Asa

Fletcher was elected district clerk for District No. 1, as it was to be called. It was voted to raise a school-tax of three and a half cents on the dollar of the grand list, to build the school-house and support the school the first year. The school-house was finished in 1834, at a cost of \$1,237.71, besides \$58.34 for the lot. It stood on the lot now occupied by the residence of William Lamere, was built of brick, and was two stories high. Peter T. Washburn, son of Reuben Washburn was the first one who taught in this school-house, and he remained three terms. In 1844, he moved to Woodstock, Vt. and in 1869 was elected governor of Vermont. He died while in office, and was the only man ever removed by death from that office in this state.

There were ninety-one scholars who attended school the first term in the brick school-house and the school gradually increased until, in 1845, there were two hundred scholars, there being a hundred and twenty-nine families within the corporation. In 1849, and 1850, the school reached its highest attendance, their being two hundred and seventy-six scholars in attendance in the two departments, called the primary and intermediate grades. The great increase in attendance at this time, was partly due to the building of the railroad, many of the Irish laborers bringing their families into town. At this time, the schools throughout the town were much larger than they are now.

This school-house was burned in the spring of 1871, at the same time that Hammond's block was burned. It was thought best to rebuild on the hill near the Academy, and the present school building was built the same year. It is the best building ever provided for the lower grades of school in town.

District No. 3, West Hill, was originally called the Mountain school district, from the fact that when the town was surveyed into school districts in 1799, this district, which embraced a greater territory than any of the others, included all the mountain on the west, to the Mt. Holly line.

The first school-meeting held for the purpose of organizing a school, was on Mar. 21, 1806. Jesse Fletcher and Abel Haild, selectmen, were present at this meeting. James Wilcox was chosen moderator, Jared Goodell, clerk, Asa Abbot, collector of taxes, and Hezekiah Haven, Asa Abbot,



and Jared Goodell, comprised the committee. At this meeting, it was voted to raise fifty cents to pay for a record book.

Schools were held in private houses until 1811, when a small school-house, eighteen by twenty feet was built. It stood west of the road leading to the H. L. Petty farm south of the brook that crosses the road a little south of the junction of the roads.

In 1821, a vote was taken to raise one hundred dollars to repair the school-house, and it was moved and placed at the forks of the roads. In 1866, a new school-house was built, a little northeast of this location on land formerly owned by Isaac Wadleigh. Schools were held here until 1879. At the annual town-meeting in March 1880, it was voted to connect this district with district No. 1, there not being a sufficient number of scholars to pay for supporting a school.

Sally Laws was employed as the first teacher in this district, in 1806. She received the sum of eight dollars for teaching the term of twelve weeks. She was succeeded by Lucy Fletcher, who was born in Ludlow, June 25, 1792. This youthful teacher continued in this school from the spring of 1807, to the closing term of the year 1813, when she married Dr. Richard Williams of Newark, N. J., where she afterward resided.

At the beginning of the year 1814, Miss Emma Patch, then a resident of Pond district, No. 7, took up the work of the school at a salary of one dollar per week. She remained till the closing of the school year of 1815. At first, the schools were in session six days in the week, then half-holidays were introduced, or only alternate Saturdays kept, but for many years, the school week has been only five days.

Many other bright and faithful "school-ma'ams" have drummed the rudiments of instruction into the young minds that were of types varying as greatly as the winged tribes of the air differ in the color of their plumage. Difficult are the duties of the public-school teacher. Parents usually consider the teacher responsible for the stock of knowledge stored up in the minds of their children, and often do not consider whether they have endowed their offspring with

clear, active intellects, or with brains clouded with a veil of dullness, making them incapable of reaping a rich harvest of knowledge. The faithful teacher, trying to urge on alike the bright and the dull in the pathway of learning, is too often blamed for the unequal results upon different types of intellect. We fail to see how this burden is to be lightened for the public school teachers. A story is told of a wealthy farmer who sent his daughter to a female seminary to study the higher branches of learning. After a while, the farmer asked the principal how Jane got along. After some hesitation, the teacher replied that Jane lacked capacity. "Well" says the father, "get her one. I will pay for anything she needs." Such is the natural course of life. What could be expected of Jane? It is illustrated on every side, that the seed of man, tree, or any living organism, produces fruit "after its kind".

It appears from the early records of the schools in Ludlow, that the labors of teachers have changed much since that time. There were then many more scholars in town than there are at the present time. In 1820, the population of the town was about eight hundred, and more than three-fourths of this number lived back on the hills. The number of scholars was about six hundred. In 1840, the population had increased to 1,363, about twenty per cent had become residents in the villages, and the number of scholars had increased to eight hundred, this being about the highest point in the scale of attendance of resident scholars. At the present time the population is about 2,400, with only about 500 scholars, and much of the population has gradually moved from the hill farms into the village, where nearly three-fourths of the entire population of the town now reside, and the schools in the hill districts where schools are kept, are very small. In some districts where, fifty years ago, the attendance ranged from fifty to a hundred scholars, there is, at the present time, either no school, or an attendance of from six to fifteen scholars. Should this change continue, in a very few years there will be no scholars to attend schools in the hill districts.

The principal work of the teachers in the early days, was to keep order the best they could. The studies taught were few, reading, spelling, writing, and arithmetic, being about

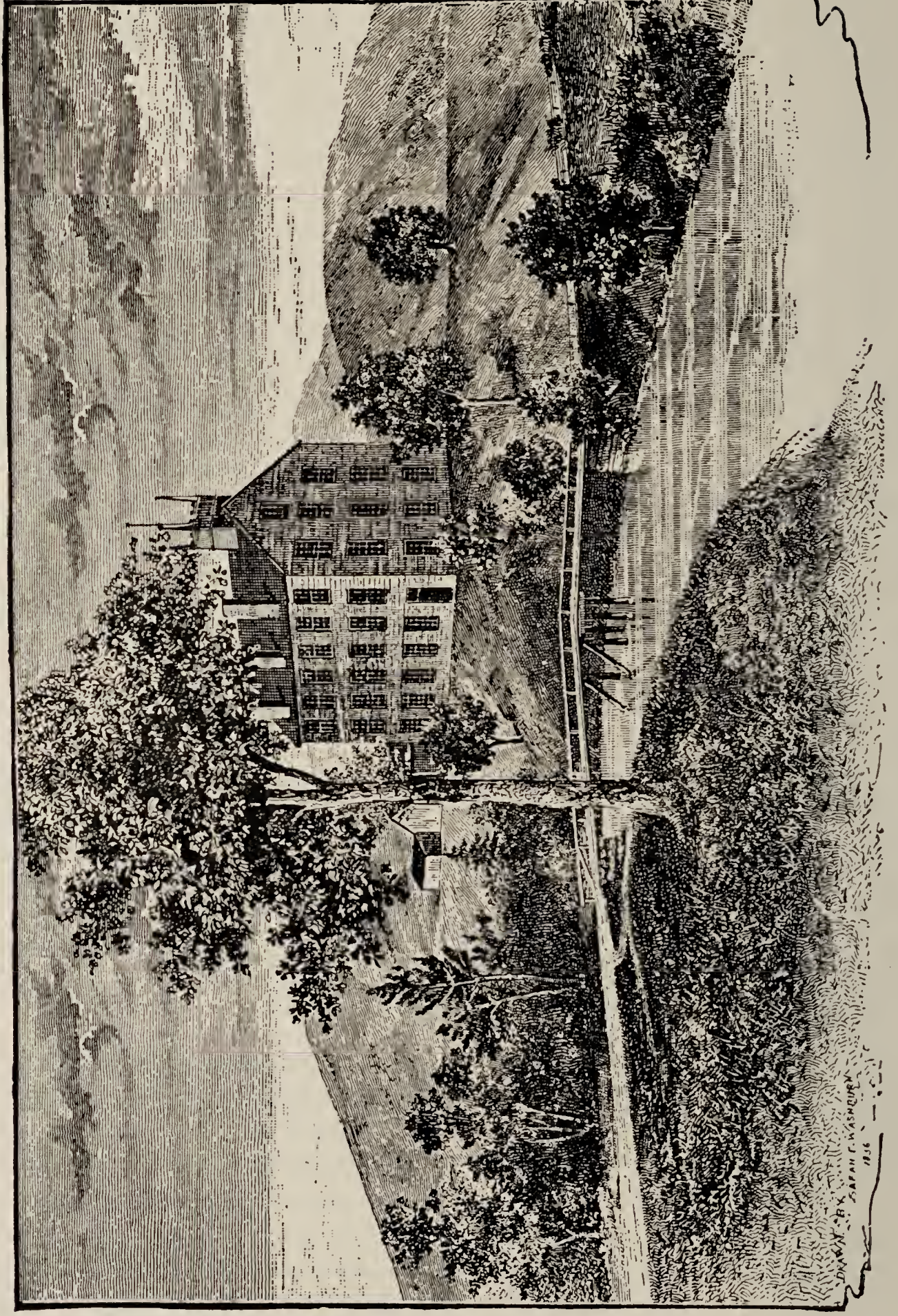


all that was considered necessary, though a little attention was given to grammar and geography. Arithmetic was usually taught only to the "Rule of Three" (Proportion) in the district schools. The teaching of penmanship was a much more difficult task then than it is now, for the teacher was required to make and mend the quill pens that the scholars used, and also set their copies. Steel pens did not come into use till 1830, and as they were very expensive, the use of quill pens was continued for several years after that date. The girls were taught the art of needle-work in every school, and when a child had been especially successful in working her sampler, her proud parents often had framed, and hung up in the best room. This sampler was a square of canvas on which the alphabet was worked in various colors and forms, and any other ornamental designs that the teacher's taste suggested. Many homes still possess one of these relics of olden times. Instruction in practical needle-work would be an advantage to many of the girls who attend the schools at the present time, as it is becoming a lost art with many school-girls.

Since the creation of man, he has advanced steadily in civilization, and at the present time there is, perhaps, no stronger factor for civilization than the public schools. The old methods of teaching have long since disappeared, but it still remains a question whether the present methods are of more practical advantage to the ordinary scholar, who is often urged from the lower studies, to soar through, or over, the higher branches, before a sufficiently mature age has been reached to give thorough understanding, or practical knowledge of the subjects he has passed over, and the boy ends his school days and begins the life of the everyday man, without any experience to make his schooling useful to him.

The so-called Woodward school building, standing at the head of Main street and used for grades, was bought for \$2,500. July 5, 1912, and deeded to the Town of Ludlow by Levi B. Moore, administrator of the estate of Norris H. Woodward.





First Black River Academy, 1835



## BLACK RIVER ACADEMY

Fifty-two years after the first settlers came to Ludlow, Black River Academy was founded. Previous to the establishing of this school, there were only the common district schools in town, which, in most cases, gave but sixteen weeks of schooling each year, and usually, the branches of study taught were passed over with much less thoroughness than at the present time. If any further advancement in education was required, the student went to the Randolph Normal school, to Burlington, or to Middlebury.

For several years, the great need of some seminary of learning in this part of the state had been felt by the friends of education, and before 1834, a movement had been begun among the more active members of the Baptist denomination in the counties of Windham and Windsor, to establish such a school under the influence of that society, in some place which should accommodate that territory. Several locations were considered, among others Cavenish, but the people of that town did not offer sufficient inducements, and the inhabitants of Ludlow offered to erect a suitable building at their own expense. The offer was accepted by those members of the community from Windsor county, while those from Windham county decided to locate another school of the same character at Townshend, and Leland Seminary was founded there about the same time that Black River Academy was established here.

The first preliminary meeting with reference to the subject was held May 20, 1834, at the house of John Howe, afterward the boarding-house of the Ludlow Woolen Mills. Here, a number of the citizens of Ludlow who were interested in the promotion of education, met according to previous appointment, and it was voted to establish an academy in Ludlow, to be known by the name of Black River Academy. They also chose a committee to procure an act of incorporation at the next session of the Legislature. The following were the members of the committee: Horace Fletcher, Reuben Washburn, Hon. Jabez Proctor of Proctorsville, and Jonathan Lawrence. The charter was obtained in October, 1834. The first board of trustees were: Daniel Packer, the Baptist minister of Mt. Holly, Joseph M.

Graves, the resident Baptist clergyman, Jabez Proctor, one of the leading business men of Proctorsville, Moses Pollard, an enterprising farmer of Plymouth, Ruben Washburn, then the leading lawyer of Ludlow, Jacob S. McCollom, a clergyman, John F. Coffin, Horace Fletcher, C. W. Hodges, Joseph Freeman, the Baptist clergyman of Cavendish, Jonathan Lawrence, Stephen Cummings, Ardain G. Taylor, Nathaniel Tolles, and Augustus Haven.

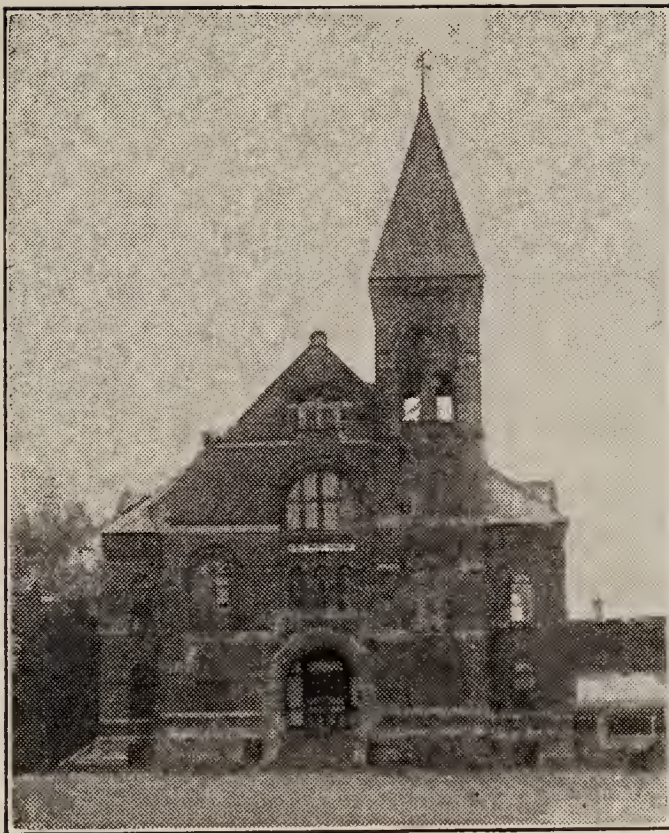
The first meeting of the trustees under the charter, was held also at the house of John Howe, Dec. 16, 1834. Reuben Washburn was chosen chairman and Joseph M. Graves, clerk. Horace Fletcher read the act of incorporation. A committee was chosen to prepare a code of by-laws, and another to look out and recommend a suitable teacher. The meeting was then adjourned until Dec. 31, 1834, when they again met, and the organization of the corporation was completed by the choice of Rev. Daniel Packer, president, Hon. Jabez Proctor, first vice-president, Stephen Cummings, second vice-president, Rev. J. M. Graves, secretary, and Augustus Haven, treasurer.

The school building was completed, and the first term commenced on Monday, Mar. 9, 1835, with Norman N. Wood, principal, and Zebulon Jones, assistant. Mrs. Rebekah Angell was the first preceptress, at a salary of two hundred dollars per annum. The attendance the first year was one hundred and eighty, ninety-five boys, and eighty-five girls.

The first academy was a three-story, brick building, and stood where the present graded-school building stands. When it was built, there were still some of the old pine stumps from the original clearing remaining intact. In 1837, some of the boys piled some of the decayed parts of the old stumps against one of the larger ones, and set fire to the pile. Some of them would run and jump over the fire. One boy, Frank Hadley, lost his balance, fell into the fire, and was badly burned.

The existence of the first academy building was of short duration, it being burned in 1844. Just before the fall term of that year was to commence, Mrs. John Manning was employed to clean the house. She built a fire in the fire-place for the purpose of heating water, and the fire took from the





Present B. R. Academy

fire-place. The bottom of the fire-place was laid with single brick over the wood floor, and was used only for laboratory work. Mrs. Manning was not blamed for the fire, as she did not know how the fire-place was constructed.

Arrangements were soon made for the continuance of the school, and the old Union church, built by Elihu Ives in 1819, was used for the academy. When this church was built, in accordance with the customs of those early days, a bottle of rum was built into the brick wall, about three feet from the northeast corner, and about two feet from the under-pinning wall. In 1850, Timothy Haild, still remembered by a very few old residents, took four bricks from the wall, and removed the bottle from its place. This act was kept secret for many years. When this building was taken down in 1888, many were on the spot to get a chance to see that ancient bottle, but, to their amazement, it was not found.

A semi-centennial celebration was held in Ludlow on the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth of August, 1885. Many of the early students came to join the re-union, and talk

over their by-gone school days, but many more had ended the lessons of life, and passed through "the valley of the shadow." When the hundredth anniversary of the beginning of the school shall come, few will be left who celebrated the semi-centennial.

After using the old church for an academy for forty-four years, where more than 4,000 young and hopeful students met to gain and lay away a store of knowledge as a qualification for success in the path of life, the present building was erected in 1888, at a cost of \$16,336.16. Clinton Smith of Middlebury, did the work by contract.

Mar. 29, 1887, the legal voters of school district No. 1 of Ludlow, voted to appropriate \$5,000 toward the construction of a new academy building. Again, Nov. 16, 1888, district No. 1 appropriated \$600 more to finish the new building. Liberal donations were made by several non-residents:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Hon. Hiram Hitchcock, N. Y. ....              | \$3,000 |
| Hon. Dexter Richards, Newport, N. H. ....     | 2,500   |
| Edw. E. Parker, Kansas City, Mo., ....        | 750     |
| Harry P. Stimson, Kansas City Mo., ....       | 750     |
| Wallace W. Marsh, Omaha, Neb., ....           | 500     |
| Daniel A. Heald, N. Y., ....                  | 300     |
| Ellis K. Powers, N. Y., ....                  | 300     |
| James S. Gill, Boston, Mass., ....            | 200     |
| A. F. Davis, Rutland, Vt., ....               | 100     |
| Stoughton A. Fletcher, Indianapolis, Ind., .. | 100     |

In addition to his money contribution, Daniel A. Heald presented the bell. Many other non-residents made smaller gifts which were gratefully accepted. The residents of Ludlow contributed as follows:

|                          |        |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Hon. Wm. H. Walker, .... | \$ 300 |
| S. W. Stimson, ....      | 200    |
| A. F. Sherman, ....      | 200    |
| Geo. S. Armington, ....  | 100    |
| Dr. Geo. E. Lane, ....   | 100    |
| Chas. Raymond, ....      | 100    |
| Lowell G. Hammond, ....  | 100    |
| John A. Dennett, ....    | 100    |



|                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Mrs. M. P. Gale .....      | 100 |
| Geo. W. Billings .....     | 100 |
| Dr. D. F. Cooledge, .....  | 50  |
| Fred O. Knight, .....      | 50  |
| Hiram L. Warner, .....     | 50  |
| Ira W. Gale, .....         | 50  |
| Martin H. Goddard, .....   | 50  |
| James Pettigrew, .....     | 50  |
| Albert H. Lockwood, .....  | 50  |
| D. C. Barney, .....        | 50  |
| Wm. P. Spafford, .....     | 50  |
| C. H. Howard, .....        | 25  |
| T. F. McDonald, .....      | 25  |
| Wm. D. Ball, .....         | 25  |
| Chas. W. Goddard, .....    | 25  |
| Rev. R. L. Olds, .....     | 25  |
| Josiah W. Pettigrew, ..... | 25  |
| Geo. S. Bridge, .....      | 25  |

Many others contributed to the building of the Academy, and are receiving their reward in the welfare and advancement of the town by the good work the school is now doing.

The new Academy building was dedicated Aug. 27, 1889, by a band of faithful workers and liberal givers to a worthy cause.

In 1895, a valuable reference library was added to the convenience of the school. Mrs. Julia E. Watson of Evanston, Ill., donated \$1,000 toward the library, a gift which will be a lasting benefit to the school. Mrs. Watson was the daughter of Norris Dickinson of Ludlow, attended Black River Academy in 1850, and was preceptress in 1856.

When the school was first opened, the tuition was \$3.00 per quarter for common English branches, \$3.50 for higher English, and ancient languages, and \$4.00 for modern languages. An additional charge was made for music and drawing. These rates were for all who attended the school. Later, in 1868, by an act of the Legislature, all living within the village corporation were admitted free of tuition, while those living outside of the corporation paid \$6.00 per term of twelve weeks, for common English, and \$7.20 for

higher English and Classics. Since the adoption of the town system of schools in 1892, the school is free to all residents of the town.

The following have held the position of Principal of Black River Academy: Norman N. Wood, from 1835 to 1836, Rev. Darwin H. Ranney, 1836 to 1837, Wm. D. Upham, 1837 to 1838, Franklin Everett, 1838 to 1839, Stephen P. Lathrop, 1839 to 1841. R. W. Clark, 1841 to 1845. The spring term of 1845 was taught by Clark H. Chapman, the fall term, by R. W. Clark. W. B. Bunnell was principal in 1845 and 1846, Claudius B. Smith, from 1847 to 1852, Geo. W. Gardner, 1852 to 1853. Rev. Mark A. Cummings, till the fall term of 1854, Moses Burbank, from that time till 1860, Rev. Arthur Little, in 1861. He was succeeded in 1862 by Milton C. Hyde, who remained till 1870 with the exception of the fall term of 1866, when Capt. Linus E. Sherman was principal, and W. B. Stickney, in the spring of 1867.

S. A. Giffin was principal from 1870 to 1874. Under Mr. Giffin's energetic management, the school was greatly improved, and the attendance much increased.

Herbert Tilden was principal in 1875, C. G. Farwell from 1876 to 1883, John Pickard, 1883 to 1885, Henry H. Kendall, 1885 to 1887, George Sherman 1887 to 1892, C. H. Richardson, from 1892 to 1893, D. F. Andrus, fall term of 1893 to 1894, F. L. Bugbee, 1894 to the fall term of 1899, A. G. Bugbee, 1899 to the fall term of 1902, L. W. Elkins, to the fall term of 1903, F. E. Heald, fall of 1903 to 1906. Edwin A. Shaw, 1906 to 1907, John B. Pugsley, 1907 to 1909, James L. Lovejoy, 1909 to 1910, Frank L. Bugbee, 1910 to 1916. Ralph C. Jenkins, 1916 to 1917, Stephen K. Perry, 1917 to 1918, Isaiah A. Bowdin, 1918 to 1924, Carl Youngberg, 1924 to 1925, Harold C. Wells, 1925 to 1926. Earl Haskins, 1926 to 1930.

The work done by these able instructors, has been the foundation on which has been built the reputation which the school enjoys today. They labored faithfully and untiringly, that the students of this school might leave its halls with finer, stronger characters, that should help to elevate the morals of mankind.



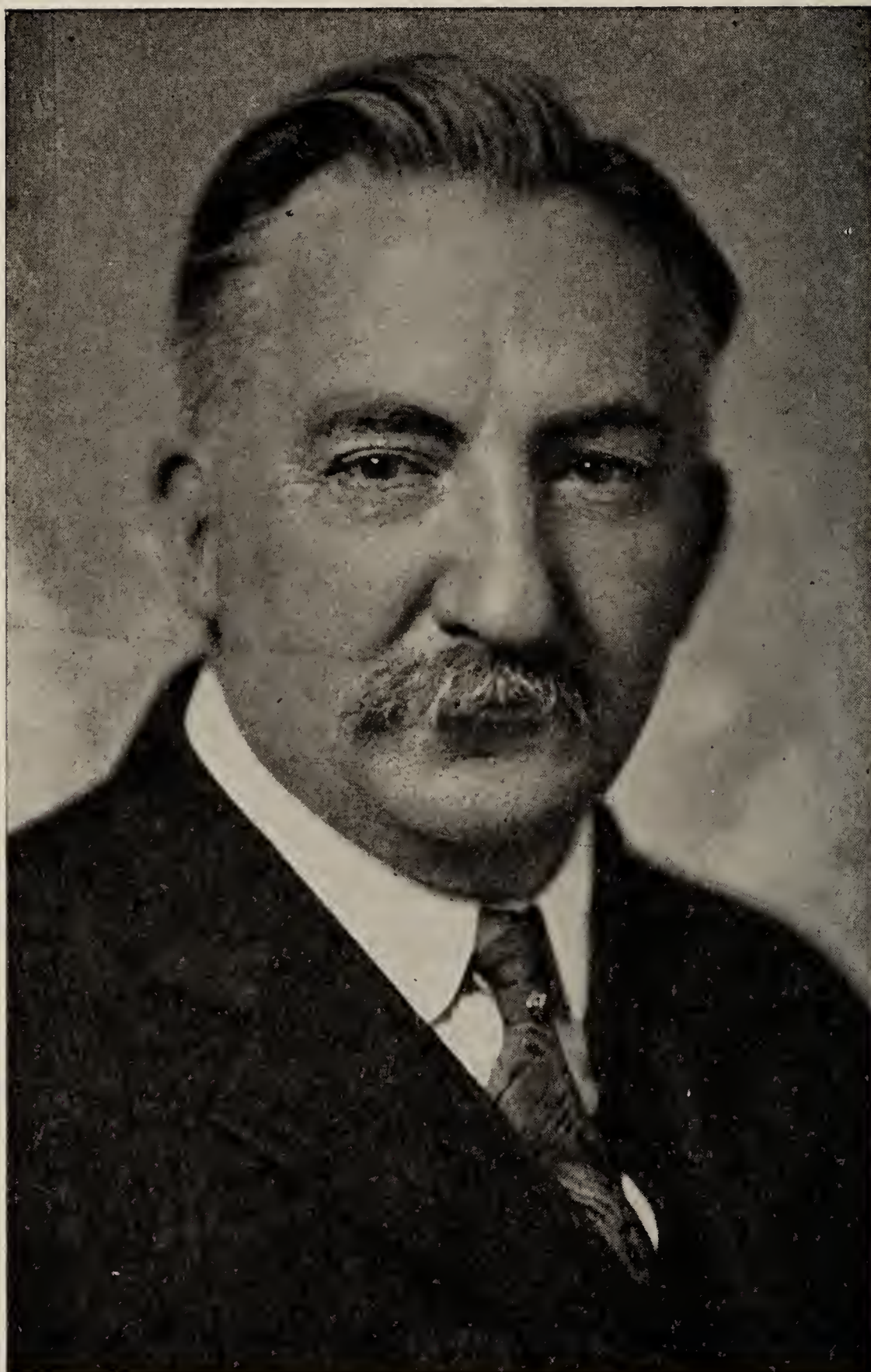
Since the founding of this school, all its surroundings have changed, except the "everlasting hills" and the river from which the academy derived its name, pursuing its quiet way as in the days of old, though somewhat diminished in volume. The original walls that shielded the student from summer's hot suns and winter's cold blasts, have succumbed to the march of time, and the school is now sheltered in its third home.

Most of the pioneer teachers and their pupils have graduated from this life, and passed on to the higher grade, where the Great Instructor solves all problems. Many other sons and daughters of Black River Academy, are following the tide of time, that blanches the rose from their cheeks, and furrows their brows with lines of care and sorrow. Younger ones are yearly entering the doors of the Academy and following in the footsteps of their predecessors. And so the ranks are kept full, and the procession moves endlessly on, from the cradle to the lowest round of public instruction, the Primary school, upward to Alma Mater, and so on to busy life, and the grave. Long may our old Academy flourish, to teach our boys and girls the greatest beauty and usefulness of this life's work.

Edward Howard Dorsey was born in Benson, Vermont on June 18, 1872 and died February 12, 1940. His father was John Watson Dorsey and his mother Sarah Howard.

Dorsey, as he was commonly called, came to Ludlow as a young man to become a teacher in the Ludlow schools, and for over forty-three years as a teacher and coach for the young people he commanded the respect of all. His love for the children, rich or poor, Catholic or Protestant, made no difference to him, his life work was for them. There will never be another Dorsey, he not only used his money, but he actually wore out a Ford car carrying the boys and girls to ball games, picnic trips, and up to the lake for swimming. Doing all in his power to give his children every opportunity to enjoy themselves. Many times you could hear some of them calling, "Hey, Dorsey".

As a coach of the various athletic teams he stood for absolute fairness and when one on his team, or on the team of the opponent overstepped, he was quick to see it and



E. Howard Dorsey



you could hear his powerful voice calling attention to it and it had to be made right. Nor did he allow one scholar to take advantage over another, but made them all stand on their own merits. Hundreds of boys and girls have gone out into life to become better men and women from having been associated with him.

When his passing came these same boys and girls erected a beautiful monument to his memory, on which is the following inscription.

“Unselfish in service — Friendly in spirit — Devoted to the welfare of Boys and Girls. His life and service to the Community an inspiration. His Memory a Benediction.”

## HARDSHIPS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS

The customs of the early settlers were very much different from the ways practiced at the present time. The people, as well as the condition of the country, were different, and their ideas of the necessities of life were more moderate. Fashion, which even then ruled in less primitive society, had not become so fully developed in this country, the rudiments of education sufficed for a man, in almost any position he might occupy, and there was not so much pushing and crowding to get to the head, urged by the greed of gaining worldly renown. People were content with their common lot in life, and settled down to the hard manual labor of clearing up their farms and bringing them under cultivation, that they might get an honest living therefrom, and, at the same time, lay the foundation upon which their children, and their ever-grasping descendants might obtain a livelihood, from the fruits of their laborious work.

When the first settlers came to Ludlow, the first thing to be done, was to build log houses to live in. Then they proceeded at once to fell the trees to make clearings. The trees were cut into sections, so that they could be more easily handled, and then the neighbors clubbed together, and made what they called “logging bees”, where, with their great muscular powers stimulated by new rum, they

rolled the logs into large piles, and burned them. One of our oldest residents stated that when he was a small boy, he could stand in the door of his father's house, and count the fires in seventy-five different choppings where the land was being cleared. At this time, about the only source from which cash could be obtained, was the ashes made by burning large maple logs. These were leached, and the lye was boiled down into salts in large iron kettles. These salts were then put into another kettle and melted and set aside to cool, when they became as hard as rock, and were called potash. It was then ground and refined, and became pearlash. Some of this product was used for saleratus in making bread, and the druggists used it in small quantities for medical purposes, as potassa. Pearlash sold in those days at twelve cents per pound, so this was a slow way of getting money. It would take a man a year to earn enough in this way to equal a lawyer's fees for one day in these advanced times.

In those days, farming implements were rude and unwieldy in make, and awkward to use. Grass was all cut by hand with thick, clumsy scythes, fastened to large, heavy snaths by an iron band, into which a small iron wedge was driven to hold the scythe tight. The scythe snath was made straight, with the handle for the left hand about eight inches long, so as to let the heel of the snath down to the ground. It was an everyday scene in haying time, to see ten or fifteen men all mowing in one field. In this way, a large field could be mowed over in one forenoon. Each one took his turn in mowing the head swath, and every time they mowed around the field, a jug of new rum was passed around. In spite of the laborious toil, the haying season was a merry time for many of them.

Mowing machines did not come into use in Ludlow until 1858. Wesley Barton was the owner of the first mowing machine brought into town. It was called the Kirby machine, and had but one drive-wheel. The cutter-bar was in line with the center of the wheel, and was stationary. The operator had to get off and raise the bar by hand to get over a stone or other obstacle.

The first settlers used hay-forks and manure-forks forged



by the common blacksmith, not much like those in use now. The first grind stones used in town, were made by sawing blocks about four inches thick from large maple logs, and trimming them so that they were round. Then the face of the rims was pounded full of coarse sand while the wood was green, and as it dried it would hold the sand in place, so that it would cut away steel, and make quite a good edge.

The ox-carts were heavy and bungling to manage. Before this, all wagons in use had but one shaft. A brace crossed from the end of the shaft to the opposite side of the horse, so that he could guide the wagon. Previous to 1820, wagons were not in use very much in any part of the country. The cart or sled, drawn by slow but faithful oxen, was the general means of conveyance to church or market, while for longer trips, or where there was no better highway than a bridle-path, horse-back riding was practiced. The first settler went to Cavendish or Chester to meeting on horse-back. Sometimes ox-teams were driven to Boston with loads of produce, and returned with loads of other goods.

Wagons were not brought into town until about 1820. The first top-buggy was brought into town by Asa Fletcher about 1840. He sold it in 1842 to Parker Pettigrew, who gave it to his son, Josiah W. Pettigrew.

A hundred years ago, stoves were almost unheard of articles of household furniture, and when they were first introduced, such was the prejudice against them, that food cooked by them was considered unhealthy. Every house was provided with one or more fire-places, where large logs were piled on the fire. Old people say that sometimes the largest logs were drawn into the house with a horse. These were called back-logs, and, as the name implies they were placed at the back of the fire-place as the foundation for the fire. In front of the back-log was placed a smaller log called the fore-stick, and when these, with plenty of smaller fuel, sent the flames roaring up the big chimney, there was but little need of kerosene, gas or even electricity, to make the fireside bright and cheery on winter evenings.

It was quite essential that the fire should not become entirely extinguished, as the method of obtaining fire in

those days was not very convenient, so it was the practice to keep coals buried in ashes for immediate use. If these failed, and a neighbor was conveniently near, a messenger was sent with a small kettle, to borrow some fire. It was necessary to be expeditious in doing this errand, and from this arose the saying of anyone who seemed to be in haste, that he was "after fire."

A bundle of small dry sticks, either of pine or spruce, was kept on hand, which, lighted in the coals, served to light the candle or pipe. When coals were not to be had, fire was obtained by the use of a flint and steel. Sparks of fire would fly from the flint, (a peculiarly hard rock,) when struck with the steel, and these ignited a bit of tow, or dry punk. The last was decayed pine or maple wood, thoroughly dried, and very inflammable.

Matches came into use in 1829. They were similar to the parlor matches now in use, only a little smaller, and somewhat longer. The brimstone on them was blue instead of red, and they were put up in small, round, wooden boxes, fifty in a box, which sold for ten cents. The flint and steel were used for several years after matches came into use.

In the fire-place, and extending nearly across it, was an iron bar called a crane, and on this, kettles were hung by means of hooks for heating water, boiling meat, vegetables, etc. Large brick ovens were built at the base of the chimney, where the baking for the family was done. It was quite a task to heat this great oven, so the house-wife had her regular baking days, and prepared food to last several days. Brown bread, and baked beans cooked in a brick oven were far superior to those cooked nowadays in the modern range, doubtless because the heat was steady and of long continuance. If warm cakes of any sort were desired on a day not devoted to baking, they were exposed to the heat of the fire in the front of the fire-place. In later years, this method was improved by a sheet-iron baker. A potato roasted in the ashes, or a Johnny-cake baked on a shingle, was a dainty as much relished by the rosy children of that time, as the most delicate dish that modern invention can contrive is now by our more pampered and less healthy appetites.



The diet of the people was very different then, from what it is now. Corn and rye furnished most of the bread supply, fish and game were more abundant, sweets were rarities, and tea or coffee a luxury to be indulged in very sparingly, if at all. Bean porridge was a common dish in nearly every household. There were different ways of making this, but the general one was by boiling beans with chopped meats. When properly made, this was a very nourishing dish, and one easily prepared. Brown bread or mush and milk was another staple article of diet, both for old and young. If these articles of diet could be brought into use at the present day, it would no doubt prove beneficial to the pale-faced, dyspeptic young Americans whose diet is made up of the starch of wheat and potatoes, made still more injurious by adulteration of the ingredients used in cooking. At that time, potatoes were not as extensively used as now. We have been told by an old lady, that when her father put up a hogshead of potatoes for the winter's supply, they thought it an abundance, and the same amount of apples was considered a rich store. At about that time, potatoes were raised and sold at the starch-factory in Cavendish owned by William Smith. In 1838, Enos and Adolphus Mayo raised eleven hundred bushels of potatoes on two acres of land, and sold them to Mr. Smith at eleven cents per bushel. This was considered a good price. The crop was raised on the farm where J. A. Mayo formerly lived, and was of the California variety. These proved to be the greatest yielders of any potato ever introduced, and excelled in the percentage of starch contained in them.

Up to 1840, flax was raised to quite an extent in Ludlow, as well as in nearly every other town in the state. The seed was sown like wheat in the spring, and the crop ripened early in the autumn. When ripe, it was either pulled up by the roots or cradled, bound in small bundles, and set up in stooks to dry. When it was dry, the seed was threshed from the straw, and sold for making linseed oil, so extensively used in painting. The straw was spread in gavels on the ground to rot the outside, and at the same time to bleach it, and loosen and separate the fibers of the straw. It was then taken to the breaker, an implement made of a hard wood plank about four feet long, on which were fastened

three boards about one and a half inches thick. These were worked down to an edge, and were placed on edge about two inches apart. The middle piece was fastened only at one end, and had a handle at the other end. This was worked up and down, and when raised, the flax was laid across the other two strips. When the middle piece was pressed down between the others, it broke the outside fiber of the straw. It was then taken to the swingle. This was a board about a foot wide, set up end wise, and sharpened to an edge. The flax was held over this with one hand, and beaten with a large, wooden, knife-like implement. This removed the outside shucks, and separated the inside fibers of the flax. It was then hetcheled. A hetchel was a board in which a hundred and fifty or two hundred small iron pins were set about half an inch apart. Through these pins, the flax was drawn to comb it out. It was then ready for the linen spinning-wheel. This was a small wheel at which the spinner sat while at work. The best part of the flax was spun into thread, (all the thread used at that time was home-made), and the remainder was spun for weaving into cloth.

There are now several spinning-wheels and hand looms in town, but only a few of them are much used. About the only use now made of the old-fashioned loom, is in the manufacture of rag carpets. Wool and flax were spun on different kinds of wheels, the wheel for wool being about three times as large as the linen weel, but they were woven in the same loom. Some of these home-made cloths are still in existence in town.

It seems at this time a difficult problem to solve, how the first settlers, and the first generation of their descendants, working under so many disadvantages, without railroads, and with only newly made highways, managed to clear up their farms, build stone walls around them, and many of them accumulate wealth enough to build good buildings, while the farmers of this fast age, in a country full of push and enterprise on all sides, cannot even manage to keep the dwellings their forefathers built in fair repair, or have not the means to build new homes when needed. In many cases, when a set of buildings gets unfit for use, the farm



is added to the list of abandoned farms. Our forefathers could find time to build miles of stone wall, while the farmers of today cannot even find time to repair them where they have tumbled down.

## LIGHTS

At the time of the settlement of Ludlow, as well as all other towns in the state, the conveniences for lighting the traveler on his way, and also for illuminating the houses, were very different from what they are now. One hundred and fifty years ago, the doctors, and others who had to travel on dark nights through unbroken forests and newly cleared settlements, had no lanterns or artificial light except a stick of the striped maple, or as it is sometimes wrongly called, moosewood. A piece of this wood was cut about two or three feet long, and about two inches in diameter. About half its length was held in the fire till burned to charcoal. This stick the traveler would carry in one hand, and by swinging it quickly back and forth, the fire could be kept bright in it for some time, giving sufficient light so that the bridle-paths could be followed. Nevertheless, the bright full moon was a welcome visitor in those times, to the traveler who was compelled to keep on his way at night. The next step in illumination, was the tin lantern and tallow candle. These lanterns were cylindrical in form, about five inches in diameter by ten inches high. The sides were rudely perforated in ornamental designs, and through these small openings, the light from the bit of candle within shone forth, giving about as much light as a June lightning-bug. When out of the wind, the door to the lantern could be left open, much increasing the "candle-power" of the lantern. After these, came square lanterns of about the same dimensions, and having one side of glass. This was considered a great step in the science, and, stimulated by the success of this improvement, the lantern-makers added another pane, and still another, till finally, the lantern consisted of four panes of glass, which slid into the grooves of the frame-work, and

were protected by transverse wires. The glass could be taken out and cleaned, and the beams of the little candle then shone forth with undimmed radiance. Both of these styles of lanterns are still to be found in the town.

About 1810, another kind of lantern was invented, having a round glass globe. The lamp was small, with one tube about a fourth of an inch in diameter. The wick used was candle-wicking, and the oil was sperm oil. Later, another tube was added, so that two jets of light were given. After a while, lard-oil was used, until, in the sixties, the kerosene lantern came into use. This kind was a great improvement over all others, and is still in use.

The first method of lighting houses, was with a small iron kettle made for the purpose, standing on three legs about two and a half inches high, making the whole height of the kettle about seven inches. These kettles, or skillets as they were called, held about a quart, and were filled with the oil of the woodchuck or the skunk. A cotton rag fulfilled the office of a wick, and furnished a very good light, aided by the light from the open fire-place. When the above-mentioned oils were not at hand, lard or tallow was substituted. Another form of skillet much used, was shaped like a boat with one end covered. This end run out to a point, and had an opening through which the wick was drawn. Poor people who could not afford to buy these iron skillets, used a common saucer, or any small tin dish. Sometimes a button was tied or sewed into the rag, which made the blaze larger.

In the early part of the nineteenth century, the art of manufacturing tallow candles by a process called "dipping", was brought into use. By this method, it was necessary to use a large quantity of tallow, and a sufficient quantity of candles was made to last a family a year. But the process was slow and laborious, and after a while, tin moulds were made, which were more convenient, as a smaller quantity of material could be used, but many preferred the "dip", it being harder, and therefore more durable. Candles were made and sold to the merchants, who kept them in stock for customers, as kerosene is kept now. Sometimes a small quantity of bees-wax was melted and



mixed with the tallow, which hardened the candles, made them more durable, and prevented the tallow from running down at the sides. When this light was in use, the charred wick had to be cut off frequently to keep the blaze clear. For this purpose, snuffers were used, a small utensil like a pair of scissors, on one blade of which was a little box which held the candle-snuff when cut off and extinguished by the cover of the box, which was on the other blade. The tallow candle has almost passed from the memory of man.

Lard lamps were used by some during the candle era. These lamps used a broad wick, and gave much more light than the candle, but the necessity for keeping the lamp warm in order to cause the lard to draw into the wick, detracted much from their usefulness. The first oil lamp that came into use, was a small, round lamp, having the same kind of burner and using the same kind of oil, as the sperm-oil lantern previously described.

About 1846, a lamp was made called the fluid-lamp. This fluid was made from alcohol, and was very dangerous, as it was of an explosive nature. The lamp was small, and gave a small, two-jet light, but the flame was very bright and powerful. This light was not blown out, but each lamp was provided with a pair of small caps, hung to the burner by a tiny chain, and these caps were used to extinguish the blaze. Camphene was then tried in these lamps, but the same objection prevented its extensive use, it being even more explosive than the fluid. With all these lamps, the wick was pushed upward through the tubes with a pin or other sharp instrument, and in all, candle-wicking was used for the wick.

The next method of lighting was the kerosene lamp, still used as the principal means of lighting by country people, as well as among the poorer classes in cities. Petroleum was known to the American Indians, but was never used for lighting purposes until about 1860. Its use was suggested in 1853, but at the later date, a refined oil, produced from the carbon of coal, was put upon the market by a Boston merchant named Downs, and for some time the oil was known as Down's oil.

About sixty years ago, street lamps began to be used

in the village of Ludlow, and naptha and kerosene were used for that purpose until the coming of the electric light. Although gas was used extensively in cities for many years, it had never been used in Ludlow till put into the residence of F. O. Knights in 1896.

Electricity has almost entirely superceded all other forms of lighting in cities and villages, and a plant for lighting the streets by this means was erected in Ludlow in 1901. In 1903, a plant was erected in Grahamville at a cost of approximately \$37,000, but its use has been discontinued. In the Ludlow Woolen mills, electric lighting has been used since 1893. It remains to be seen what the next discovery will be, in the form of illumination.

## FIRST SETTLERS

Jesse Fletcher, son of Timothy and Bridget Richardson Fletcher, was born in Westford, Mass., Nov. 8, 1763. He attended the common schools of his native town for a few terms. When he was nearly nineteen years of age, he was married to Lucy Keyes of Westford, Aug. 8, 1782. In the spring of the following year, he came to Cavendish, Vt., to visit his brother, Josiah Fletcher. It was while on this visit, that he prospected the wild township of Ludlow, which, at that time, was inhabited by only one family. On this expedition, he discovered the famous spring of water, and located himself near it, where the old Fletcher homestead now stands. In the spring of 1784, he brought his young wife to town. He built a small log house which he lived in till about 1792, when he built a small frame house which is now the ell of the Fletcher house. About 1805, he built the two-story addition.

Mr. Fletcher was a man of more than ordinary ability, honest and industrious, and held many town offices, having the trust and respect of all who knew him. He was a leading figure in the development of the town, up to the time of his death which occurred on Feb. 14, 1831. He raised a large and very useful family. Charlotte, the eldest child, was born in Westford, Mass., Saturday, Nov. 23, 1782.



Stephen, born in Westford, Friday, Jan. 23, 1784, was killed Feb. 18, 1790, by being run over by an ox-sled. This was the first death that occurred in town. Michael was born in Ludlow, Saturday, Feb. 12, 1785. Fanny, born Sunday, May 14, 1786, Jesse Jr., born Friday, Sept. 21, 1787, Elijah, born Thursday, July 28, 1789, Timothy, born Thursday, March 10, 1791, Lucy, born Monday, June 25, 1792, Stephen, 2nd, born Thursday, Jan. 10, 1794, Loriania, born Thursday, Sept. 1, 1795, Calvin, born Saturday, Feb. 4, 1798, Miles Johnson, born Monday, Nov. 11, 1799, Dexter, born Friday, June 5, 1801, Louisa, born Thursday, April 12, 1804, Stoughton A., born Aug. 22, 1808. It was in Stoughton's childhood, about 1822, that the maples that line the highway at the old homestead, were set out. These are two hundred in number, and form the finest avenue of any artificial tree setting in town.

Josiah Fletcher, brother of Jesse, was born in Westford, Mass., in 1749. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and was in the battles of Bunker Hill, White Plains, Ticonderoga, and Bennington, and was in the Rhode Island campaign of 1778 and 1779. In 1781, he removed to Vermont, staying a short time in Cavendish, of which he was the first town clerk. He removed to Ludlow with his brother Jesse in 1784, built his house, and commenced clearing the land for his farm where J. W. Kimball formerly lived in the lower village, once known as the Amasa Adams place.

In 1792, Josiah Fletcher was made town treasurer, being the first one to hold that office in Ludlow. He died Feb. 27, 1825. At the time of his death, there was not a house in the village, south of the river. The first house in that part of the village, was raised about four months afterward.

About two or three years before Mr. Fletcher died, he had a large field of corn, something like ten acres. The rows were nearly eighty rods long, and ran parallel with East Main street, from about where the Kimball barn stands, on the north side of the street. Mr. Fletcher, though an old man, was very industrious, and he worked away alone, day after day, hoeing his corn. Evenings, he usually called at the post-office, or at the hotel, which stood where Henry Scott lived later, just west of the stone house on

the corner of East Main street and Commonwealth avenue. The boys would inquire about the progress of his work: "Uncle Si, how did hoeing go today?" Mr. Fletcher would reply, "Well, boys, I tell you, I made it sweat today. I hoed a row and a half." His courage was good, for it is said that the ground in his cornfield was completely covered with sorrel.

In 1783, James Whitney came to Ludlow and settled on North Hill on the farm later known as the John Henry Whitney farm. He reached this place by way of the Twenty Mile Stream in Cavendish, as no road had been made in Ludlow onto North Hill.

The following year, Simeon Read settled on the road to Proctorsville, where William Bixby now lives.

Capt. John Warren moved into town about 1795, bringing himself, his family, and all his household goods, on the backs of two horses. He lived first on North Hill, his house standing in the field east of the H. L. Spaulding place. While living there, Mr. Warren took a walk on snowshoes, to Rutland, to get an axe "jumped", which meant replacing the old steel in the axe with new. He took his grists to mill in Cavendish on his back. One town-meeting day, his neighbors going by his place to attend town-meeting, asked him if he were not going. He replied that he was, when his wife had made a pair of pants for him, the cloth for which was almost ready to be taken out of the loom. He reached the meeting in season, wearing the new pants. This illustrates the capability of our foremothers in times of need. The early pioneer could shear his sheep on Monday, and his faithful wife could card, spin, and weave the wool into cloth, and make a pair of pants or a coat before Saturday night. In those days, there were few factories, and the means of transportation were very limited, so that the families scattered about through the wilderness had to be sufficient unto themselves, both in providing material, and in manufacturing.

In 1806, Capt. Warren (who received his title from being captain in the home militia,) moved from North Hill to South Hill, onto the farm later known as the Jonathan Whitcomb farm. He built a small log house east of the



road, where the old apple-orchard now stands. Mr. Warren moved his household goods to the new house, on a hand sled, there being nothing but a bridle-path to South Hill at that time. In 1810, he built a frame house west of the road, which has been burned. This was one of the first frame houses built on South Hill. In October of the same year, a merry party of neighbors and friends gathered at this house to give a house-warming, and congratulate the owners for so nice a house, and during the merry-making, one of the party wished they had some new cider. Whereupon, Mrs. Warren chopped some apples in her chopping-tray, pressed the pomace in her cheese-press, and behold, there was the cider for her guests. This was the first cider made in town.

Ashbel Spaulding was born in Chelmsford, Mass., Apr. 27, 1765. He married Abial Parker, Sept. 30, 1801, and the same year removed to Ludlow, and built for himself a small log house on North Hill on the north side of the James Pollard farm, west of the road. Mr. and Mrs. Spaulding were the parents of the first twins born in town, Rebecca and Parker Spaulding, born Nov. 17, 1807. Parker died unmarried. Rebecca married Martin Snell, and was the mother of the late Hyland Snell.

Ashbel Spaulding brought to town with him, the first lilac bush ever planted here, and nearly all the lilac bushes in Ludlow are descendants of that bush.

Thomas Bixby was born in Westford, Mass., in 1762, and came to Ludlow in 1784. He located on the place still known as the Bixby farm, northwest of Grahamville. For the first two years, he stayed in Ludlow during the summers only, having a canvas tent for a dwelling, and returned to Westford to spend the winters. He then built a log house in which he lived about three years. In 1789, he was taxed for fifteen acres of land under cultivation, which shows how much energy and courage the young pioneer had, to push the clearing off of the timber so rapidly.

In 1792, he built for himself a frame house, standing nearly where the present dwelling stands. About 1800, he kept a tavern there. Later, his property came into the hands of his son, Calvin Bixby, who was born Oct. 16, 1810.

He lived on the place nearly all his life, and built the house now standing in 1834. The wood-shed and old cider-mill west of the road, are a part of the first frame building. He died Aug. 4, 1894, in the ninety-first year of his age. He set out the apple orchard nearest the highway, but the one east of the house was set out by Thomas Bixby in 1790. This is one of the oldest orchards in town, and held in the Bixby family for more than a hundred years, the present owner (1931) being Calvin Bixby's grand-daughter, Mrs. Mary Bixby Murphy. The Thomas Bixby farm and the one settled by Jesse Fletcher, are the only ones in town still held by the descendants of the original owners.

## REPRESENTATIVES FROM LUDLOW

Ludlow was organized in 1792, but was not represented in the state legislature till 1795, when Peter Read, afterward pastor of the Congregational church, was elected representative. The election was held at the house of Stephen Read, which stood in the northern part of the town, up the West Branch. At that time, there were about thirty-five voters in town. It seems strange to us that when Mr. Read's election took place, nearly a score of years after the Declaration of Independence, four years after the admission of our state into the Union, and fifty-four years before the shriek of the iron horse first echoed over the hills of Ludlow, there was, at that time, but one house in that part of the town now occupied by the village, and that was Josiah Fletcher's house, which stood on the site later occupied by the residence of J. W. Kimball. Where Ludlow village now stands, that part south of the river was an unbroken forest.

Mr. Read met with the state assembly at Windsor, Montpelier not becoming the capital of the state till thirteen years later. Josiah Fletcher was representative in 1796-97, 1800-01. Jesse Fletcher, brother of Josiah, 1798-99, David Lewis, 1802-03, Austin Fenn, 1804-05, Asahel Smith, 1806-1812, 1817-23, 1825-27. Mr. Smith was the first representative from Ludlow to meet with the state assembly at Montpelier in 1808.



Arioch Smith was representative in 1813-14, 1832. He was the first blacksmith in Ludlow, and settled in Smithville, which took its name from him. Elihu Ives, who came to Ludlow in 1785 and was the fifth settler, represented the town in 1815-16, Jesse Bailey, 1818-19, Zachariah Spaulding, 1820-21, Moses Haven, 1824, Jonas Dunn, 1828-29, Asa Fletcher, 1830-31, Reuben Washburn, 1833. Mr. Washburn was for many years a leading lawyer in Ludlow. Sewall Fullam, Jr., 1834-41, Benjamin Billings, 1842-43, Surry Ross, 1844-45, William K. Manning, 1847, Darius L. Green, 1848-49, Daniel A. Heald, 1850, Asa A. Barton, 1853-54, Nathaniel Cudworth, 1855-56, Roswell Smith, 1857, Moses Pollard, 1859-60, Rev. Wm. S. Balch, 1861-62, Hiram Albee, 1863-64, Wm. H. Walker, 1865-66, 1884, Joseph Pelton, 1867, Rufus N. Heminway, 1868-69, Ervin J. Whitcomb, 1870-72, Elon G. Pettigrew 1874, Wm. A. Patrick, 1876, Elwin A. Howe, 1878-80, Marcus A. Spaulding, 1882, Lowell G. Hammond, 1886, Albert H. Lockwood, 1888, Hiram L. Warner, 1890-91, Wm. W. Stickney, 1892-93, 1894-95. Mr. Stickney was made Speaker of the House of Representatives during his service, and proved himself as able a representative as Ludlow ever had. His last term filled out the first century of Ludlow's representation in the state legislature.

Frank A. Walker was elected Sept. 1, 1896, beginning the second century in the history of the town's legislation. Of the 379 votes cast, Mr. Walker received 377, being the greatest vote ever given for a representative in this town. Charles Howard was representative 1898-99, L. G. Fullam, 1900-01, Harlan P. Graham, 1902-03. Mr. Graham was elected by the Local Option issue that was before the people of Vermont at that time. Frank W. Agan was his successor in 1904-05, Albert L. Stillwell, 1906, Henry T. Brown, 1908, Wm. N. Bryant, 1910, Emery M. Plumley, 1912, Ernest E. Moore, 1914 and 1916, Charles H. Pollard, 1918, E. C. Warner, 1920, James McDonald, 1922, Floyd T. Sumner, 1924 and 1926, Merrill F. Proctor, 1928 and 1930.

In the past hundred and forty-seven years, Ludlow has risen from an almost unbroken forest, containing a scat-

tered population of less than a hundred and twenty-five souls, to a town of about two thousand inhabitants, with a thriving village, with churches, schools, woolen-mills, saw-mills, railroad, telegraph, telephones, automobiles, radios, and talking machines, and even communication with the outside world by airships and wireless telegraphy. It does not seem likely that science can develop as great changes in the hundred years to come, as have come into existence in the one just past.

### **TOWN CLERKS**

Jesse Fletcher was chosen the first town clerk in Ludlow in 1792, served a year and was succeeded by Nathan Davidson, who held the office till 1795, when Jesse Fletcher was again elected, and held the position until 1809. From that time till 1820, Asahel Smith was clerk, and after the office had been held one year by Jesse Bailey, Mr. Smith was again elected, and remained until 1825. Artemas Spafford then held the office for two years, followed by Stephen Cummings and Moses Haven, each of whom served two years. In 1831, Artemas Spafford was again elected, and served continuously until 1860, when his son, Wm. Spafford, succeeded him in the responsibilities of the office, remaining till 1884, when he resigned, and his sister, Miss Sarah W. Spafford, was elected, and served as clerk a year. Henry M. Taylor was next elected to the office, but died soon after, and Miss Spafford was again chosen, and remained about a year. In 1886, Wm. P. Spafford again accepted the office and held it till 1900, when W. M. Bixby was elected and was in the office till his death in 1929. In 1930, Miss Maybelle Hill was elected to the office.

### **TOWN TREASURERS**

At the time of the organization of the town, Josiah Fletcher was elected to the office of town treasurer, in which he remained during 1792 and 1793. He was succeeded by Peter Read in 1794, but was again elected in



1795, and held the position till 1799. Seth Lee was then chosen, and remained till 1803. Elihu Ives held the office in 1804 and 1805. Arioch Smith was then elected and remained till 1819. Asa Fletcher was treasurer in 1820, and Arioch Smith was next elected to the office, remaining till 1833. Pliny Parker held the office from 1833 to 1844, Martin Perry, in 1845. Artemas Spafford was then chosen, and remained till 1848, when Jazar Smith succeeded him, remaining till 1850, in which year Daniel Perry was treasurer, Jazar Smith, in 1851, and Elijah Scott in 1852. Jazar Smith was again elected in 1853, and served until 1858, when Ebenezer Clement was chosen, and served till 1860. Then Hiram W. Albee was elected, and served until his death which occurred in 1877. He was succeeded by Albert H. Lockwood, who was treasurer till 1884, and was then followed by John A. Dennet. He served till 1888, when Albert H. Lockwood was again elected, remaining in office till 1902, when he was succeeded by Wentworth M. Bixby. He held this office till his death in 1929, and Maybelle Hill succeeded him.

## SENATORS

The senators who have been sent to the legislature from Ludlow are: Benjamin Billings, 1844-45, Daniel A. Heald, 1854-55, F. C. Robbins, 1860-61, Wm. H. Walker, 1867-68, Ervin J. Whitcomb, 1879-80, Elwin A. Howe, 1884-85, R. E. Hathorn, 1896-97, Chas. H. Howard, 1902-03, Allen D. Ball, 1922-23.

## SELECTMEN

Jesse Fletcher, 1792-1801, 1803-1808, Jonas Hadley, 1792, Elihu Ives, 1792-95, 1799, 1801, 1816, Peter Read, 1793, 1795-1799, Benjamin Patch, 1793, Elisha Denison, 1794-96, Abraham Preston, 1796, Daniel Lewis, 1797-98, Abel Haild, 1797-98, 1806-07, 1810-13, Austin Fenn, 1800-01, 1804-07, 1809-13, John Sargent, 1802-03, Nathaniel Dyer, 1802, Thomas Bixby, 1802-03, Arioch Smith, 1804-05, 1834, James Bates, 1804, John Warren, 1805, Asahel

Smith, 1806-19, 1821-24, 1832-36, Jared Goodell, 1808, Zachariah Spaulding, 1808, 1814-15, 1821-22, Thomas Evans, 1809, Jesse Bailey, 1814-15, 1820, Moses Haven, 1816-17, 1829-30, Thomas Keyes, 1817-19, 1827, Zebulon Spaulding, 1818-19, 1821-22, Jonas Dunn, 1820, 1826-27, Levi Adams, 1820, Henry Adams, 1823-24, Artemas Spafford, 1823-26, 1831-32, 1834-40, 1842-44, Janna Wilcox, 1825-26, Simeon Burbank, 1825, Stephen Cummings, 1827-28, Joshua Warner, 1828-29, Isaac Ives, 1828-29, Asa Fletcher, 1830-33, 1835-36, Joseph Davidson, 1830-31, Charles Ives, 1833, 1837-40, Samuel Ross, 1837, 1856-57, Asa S. Barton, 1838-41, 1848, 60-63, Merrick Spafford, 1841-47, 1850-56, Benjamin Billings, 1841-43, Asa Fenn, 1844-45, Martin Perry, 1845-50, Frederick Dunbar, 1846-47, 1851-53, I. B. How, 1846, Jazar Smith, 1847-49, S. L. Armington, 1848-49, 1857, Alexander Barton, 1848, Zachariah Parker, 1849, Asahel Miller, 1850, Joel Warner, 1851-52, 1855,, Cyrus Baker, 1851-52, Elijah Scott, 1853-55, 1865-66, B. P. Spaulding, 1853-56, 1866-67, 1874-76, Enos Mayo, 1854, Alvin Lamb, 1857, 1860, Calvin Riggs, 1858-59, 1861-63, Stephen E. Wood, 1858, Moses Pollard, 1859-60, 1863-64, Artemas Spaulding, 1861-62, Gardner I. Howe, 1862, Hiram W. Albee, 1864, Leonard Wilcox, 1864-65, 1871, Stedman Spaulding, 1865, Joseph M. Pratt, 1866, Rufus N. Heminway, 1867-70, Lowell G. Hammond, 1867-70, Solon I. Atherton, 1868-69, 1870-73, Willard Johnson, 1874-82, George E. Walker, 1872-73, Anson J. Sawyer, 1872-73, Thomas French, 1874-76, Elisha Johnson, 1877-83, 1885-87, Milton H. Edson, 1883, D. R. Sargent, 1883-1897, L. G. Fullam, 1884-86, Wm. P. Spafford, 1884, Wesley Barton, 1888, Elias H. Pinney, 1888, Chas. H. Ray, 1889, H. L. Warner, 1889-90, Prescott Adams, 1891-93, 1895-96, 1899, 1900-02, Gilman B. Horton, 1891-96, J. W. Kimball, 1896-98, Wm. L. Lawrence, 1897, C. H. Howard, 1898, 1902, O. N. Gates, 1898, Levi Pettigrew, 1899-1902, John O'Brien, 1903, Silas Colton, 1903-05, Harlan Graham, 1903-05, Sidney A. Hill, 1904, Fred Thompson, 1905, Silas Colton, 1906, 1907, 1910-11. Harlan Graham, 1906-07-08-09-10-11, Fred Thompson, 1906-07-08-09-10-11-13-14-15. John Wilmoth, 1913-14, Henry T. Brown, 1913-14-15,



W. J. Phalen, 1915, Charles H. Pollard, 1917-20, Geo. M. Moore, 1917-18, H. J. Stearns, 1917-18-19, H. E. Howard, 1919-20-21, F. T. Sumner, 1920-21-22, 1930. Jesse H. Spaulding, 1921-22-23-24-25-26, C. A. Hastings, 1922-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30, James McDonald, 1923- 24-25-26-28-29-30, J. E. Brown, 1927-28-29.

It has always been customary with the people of this town, to retain in office as long as possible, those who performed their duties faithfully. Those who have served longest as selectmen are: Asahel Smith, twenty-three years, Artemas Spafford, sixteen, Jesse Fletcher, sixteen, D. R. Sargent, fifteen, Merrick Spafford, fourteen, Austin Fenn, eleven, Elisha Johnson, ten, and Asa S. Barton, B. P. Spaulding, Willard Johnson and Prescott Adams, each nine years.

## TANNERIES

The first leather tanned in Ludlow, was on North Hill about 1798, by Levi Ives, on the farm known as the Joseph Sanders place. The tanning was done in wooden troughs, and the bark used was ground by hand. The tanner could not tan sole-leather by this process, therefore the first settlers in Ludlow used birch bark for the soles of their shoes.

In 1800, a more extensive tanning business was started on South Hill, by Dea. Moses Mayo. He built a tannery west of the road from where Harold Ford now lives. In this tannery, the bark was ground by horse-power. Mr. Mayo built a house near his tannery, which was known later as the Wilkins place. He had a son, Enos, who came to town in 1808. There were four sons: Enos, Adolphus, Elijah, and Moses. Elijah drove teams hauling farm produce, etc., to and from Boston. Enos is remembered by many as "Uncle Enos", and Adolphus was the father of Jonathan A. Mayo. Moses Mayo and his son Enos built the house now owned by Harold Ford, about 1810. It has been repaired some, but the old-fashioned chimneys are the ones first built.

Mr. Mayo followed his trade here till 1815, when David

Sawyer, who married Martha, daughter of Moses Mayo, bought out the business. Mr. Mayo died Nov. 1, 1839.

In 1816, Mr. Sawyer built a tannery in the lower village on the North Hill road where Frank Holden's residence now is, which Mr. Sawyer also built. It was the twelfth house in the village, and it was here that our former townsman, Anson J. Sawyer, first saw the light of day.

Mr. Sawyer did business at his tannery for several years. For grinding the bark in this tannery, two stones, somewhat like the old-fashioned millstones, were hung upon a horizontal shaft fixed to a revolving upright shaft. These stones were about ten inches thick and five feet high, and were so hung that their weight rested upon the floor, as they rolled round and round the revolving shaft. The bark being laid upon the floor in the track of these stones, was reduced to the required fineness. In the early part of the nineteenth century, the same sort of arrangement was employed for grinding flax-seed in the manufacture of linseed oil. When business was suspended in this tannery, a part of the old building was used in building an addition to the residence, and is still in use.

In 1836, Eben Spear built a tannery on the site afterward occupied by the Whitcomb and Atherton bakery building, later used by C. H. Howard as a furniture store. He built a dam across Jewell Brook, where the old Jacob Patrick blacksmith shop stood, now Vail's garage. From this dam, a pen-stock carried the water to the bark mill, that stood nearly where the west end of the Goddard House, or Riverside, now stands. This was the first bark mill ever run by water-power in this town. To most of the Ludlowites of those days, it was a great curiosity to witness such an enterprise. When the ditch was dug to lay the pipes for the village water supply in 1894, the plank and boards of the old penstock were found nearly as sound as when placed there fifty-eight years before.

This tannery was run several years. Mr. Spear married Patty Mason, sister of the late Chas. S. Mason, and died Dec. 17, 1839.

The tannery on Andover street was built by James B. Horr in 1844. He did not do business long, but sold out



to E. W. Mixter about 1848. John Rice was the next owner until 1851, when he died, and Samuel Taylor bought the property. A. J. Sawyer bought the tannery, May 28, 1853, and it remained in his possession till his death in 1897. He did an extensive business in tanning, for about forty-three years. This was the only tannery that ever did any business in Ludlow after the railroad was built. Previous to that time, hides and leather were hauled to and from Boston by horse teams. Mr. Sawyer practiced his trade longer than any other tanner who ever lived in Ludlow. Science has developed many improvements in the art of tanning leather, from the first method practiced in Ludlow, to those of the present time.

## BRICK YARDS

As early as 1810, a brick yard was opened on South Hill by Leonard Ross, on the farm known as the Silas Johnson farm. Mr. Ross did not make brick long. The next brick-making business was carried on by Simon Spaulding on his farm in 1815. Later, this farm was known as the Enos Mayo farm. In 1816, Zachariah Spaulding built a brick-kiln on his farm. Mr. Spaulding made brick four years, and then gave up the business, as the clay proved not to be of good quality for brick-making. This farm was afterward owned by Zachariah Spaulding's son, Dea. Parker Spaulding, and later by W. C. Stearns.

In 1817, Elihu Ives opened a brick-yard on his farm on North Hill, later owned by his grandson, Solon Ives Ather-ton, who died here in 1893. Mr. Ives made brick quite extensively for several years. He made the brick that were used in building the Union church in 1819. In addition to his brick manufacturing, Mr. Ives operated quite extensively, a distillery for manufacturing cider brandy.

In 1810, Zedekiah Haven made brick on the "Brook road", between the two highway bridges bordering on the Abel Batchelder farm. This place is now owned by Frank Moore.

In 1835, John Gilbert also made brick on this road, on the farm then owned by David Moore, later owned by

Henry Fuller, father of Freeman H. and Sylvester Fuller. The farm is at present the property of A. E. Lawrence.

Another brick industry was started on South Hill in 1825, by Thomas Keyes, each of the Zachariah Parker farm, on the road leading onto East Hill by the soapstone quarry. After Mr. Keyes had made brick for a few years, he was succeeded for a while by Abram Adams. Cyrus Keyes had a brick-yard at the forks of the roads near the soapstone quarry. He commenced business there about 1832, and, at the same time, built a small house which has been gone for many years. In 1849, Warren Adams, brother to Abram Adams, made brick on the ground where the residence of the late A. J. Sawyer stands on Andover street, now owned by Frank Thomas. The great freshet of July, 1850, washed away the works.

There is not an industry in existence, or that ever existed to the present knowledge of man, with a history more interesting than the history of brick-making. "Beginning with almost the earliest record of man-kind, it is, in fact, that record itself—in every land and in every century, there have been bricks and brick-makers. The first signs of man's awakened genius to create, to build, was expressed in the making of brick. 'They said one to another, Go to, let us make brick and burn them thoroughly.' (Gen. XI, 3.) The earliest pathway of civilization, is marked with mile-stones of brick. Wherever civilization tarried long enough to make a kiln, it left its monument of brick. Semi-mythical tales of centuries, dead nations are substantiated by modern discoveries of cities, walls, and structures of brick, hidden from sight by the accumulations of time. From the grave of the most ancient civilization, out of the sands of the uninhabited desert, are being unearthed, columns, and archways, and walls of brick that were "made and burned thoroughly."

The first brick made were usually from twelve to thirteen inches square, and three and a half inches thick. In Egypt, bricks were not generally burned in kilns, but were dried in the sun. When they were made of the Nile mud, it was mixed with chopped straw to prevent its cracking.

There has been much improvement made in the manu-



facture of bricks since the beginning of the present century. When brick was first made in Ludlow, the clay was worked by driving oxen over it, spread on a platform. Afterward, the present method of breaking the clay was invented, and also improved machinery for making pressed brick. The kilns now used are about the same in design that the first were, and, in all probability, will remain in use until the inventive powers of the modern electrician have found some process to dry or burn bricks by electrical heat.

There has been but one lime-kiln in Ludlow, and that was built by Joseph Taylor in 1826. Mr. Taylor made the lime used in laying the brick of the late Geo. H. Levey's residence, better known to many as the Isaac Pollard place. The kiln was built on the Martin Snell farm, now occupied by Harlan Pelkey, and the remains of it are still visible.

## SAW MILLS

Shortly after the first settlers came to Ludlow, it became necessary to have a saw mill to manufacture boards for building their houses and barns, and accordingly the early proprietors offered a grant of fifty acres of land to anyone who would erect a saw-mill in the town. In 1790, Ebenezer Gilbert availed himself of the offer, and built a saw-mill on the "West Branch." The mill stood on the stream where the falls, known as Buttermilk Falls, are, above where the Stephen Read house stood. The following year, Mr. Gilbert added a grist-mill, and, for a few years, did all the sawing and grinding that was done in town. The working capacity of this mill was in accordance with all other things at that early date. The saw-mills of the present time, will manufacture more lumber in one day, than could be sawed with Mr. Gilbert's mill in ten days.

In 1835, Jonathan Carpenter built a saw-mill on the same stream, on the site where, later, stood the mill known as the William Lawrence mill. Mr. Carpenter did business here about twenty years, but was not very well liked by his patrons, as it was claimed by many that he took the larger part of the custom logs drawn to his mill to be sawed, for slabs. Calvin Bixby, being dissatisfied with that kind of

treatment, in 1850 built another mill a few rods below Mr. Carpenter's mill, and, by fair dealing, drew most of the trade to his mill. At that time, it was customary to allow one half of the slabs to the man who owned the logs, and the other half to the man who operated the mill.

The first man to dam the waters of Black River in Ludlow, was Hezekiah Haven, who built a saw-mill in 1803, at the upper end of the factory pond. The dam stood nearly opposite George Chapman's house. The old mud-sill to the dam is still visible. When Mr. Haven had his mill completed and ready for business, he found to his great disappointment, that he could not saw a log, and had to abandon the business on account of there not being a sufficient fall of water to furnish power. It seems to be the common lot of mankind, to meet with disappointment in the attempt to establish great enterprises.

Mr. Haven not being wholly discouraged with the failure of his first attempt at building a saw-mill, in 1805 built a dam where the dam of the Ludlow Woolen Mill now stands, and erected a saw-mill on the north side of the river. The basement of his mill was used a few years as a manufactory of wooden pails. In those days, there was plenty of good pine timber suitable for the manufacture of pails.

In 1810, Capt. Joseph Patterson built a listing mill, which stood just below the north end of the present dam. The saw-mill and the listing-mill stood about fifteen feet apart, and the great freshet of 1828 took away part of the dam, and washed away the listing-mill, which was not rebuilt. The saw-mill continued in operation. It was run for many years by Emery Burpee, who was succeeded by John Stimson for several years, and he again by Loton Gassett. The mill was purchased by Seneca Haven and Oliver Orvis in 1866, who moved it up the Brook Road to the site where the mill of J. N. Harris later stood. In 1870, the old style, up-and-down saw was taken out, and a circular-saw mill put in its place, this being the second circular-saw mill brought to town. J. N. Harris purchased the mill in the spring of 1881, and, there not being sufficient water to do good business, an engine and boiler were



put in, in the spring of 1882. Seventeen days after the engine was started, the mill was burned, May 12, 1882. It was immediately rebuilt, but was again burned Aug. 5, 1891, was again rebuilt in 1892, and destroyed by fire for the third time, Jan. 15, 1905, and was not rebuilt.

In 1820, Wm. Hemenway built a mill on Williams River. The mill stood on the road leading to Isaiah Lovejoy's in Andover, near where the falls are. Mr. Hemenway operated this mill a few years, and, in 1830, built another mill down the stream, near where George Robbins formerly lived. He also built the house in which Mr. Robbins lived. In the same year, the machinery was moved from his first mill to the second one, and the building was allowed to go down.

The mill down the stream from the former residence of Chas. H. Ray, and about east of the C. W. Hemenway farm, was built by Samuel Ross in 1830. He also built the house that stood near the mill at that time, and the following year, he built the house known as the Benjamin Goodwin place.

In 1820, Abijah Jewell built a saw-mill on Brook Road, just east of the Clarence Warren house. This was the first mill built on this stream, which received its name, Jewell Brook, from this circumstance. Mr. Jewell built a log house where the orchard east of the present house stands, and his wife set out the old apple trees that are still standing. She was a half-breed squaw. The Clarence Warren house was built by Mr. Jewell in 1824.

In 1810, James Adams built a saw-mill at Grahamsville. It stood just below where the dam now stands. He was the second to dam the waters of Black River in this town. Later, Edward Wilder, father of Edward Wilder who died in 1896, and of Josiah Wilder who died in 1901, owned and operated the mill till about 1827. Alden Patch built a mill a few rods below where the Royce mill stood, in 1830. About 1835, Robert Walker took possession, and run the mill till 1845, when it was allowed to go down. Mr. Walker turned wooden screws for cider-mills. He was said to have been an adept in ornamental turning, but a poor sawyer.

Ira Mathewson once said that Robert Walker "couldn't saw boards as even as the trees grew in the woods."

In 1835, Asahel Smith built a saw-mill at Smithville. It stood where the Verd Mont mill now stands, and was used more or less till 1845. About 1850, Alfred Wakefield repaired the mill, and manufactured chair stock till about 1860. After the mill had been idle for several years, A. B. Freeman & Co. commenced the manufacture of whetstones for scythes, also sawed and finished soapstone for water-tanks, table-tops, stoves, mantel shelves, and various small articles for household use. This work continued till about 1887, when the business was discontinued. Again, in 1896, J. S. Gill over-hauled the old mill, and fitted it up for a silk-mill, but it was never put in operation. In 1901, Frank W. Agan purchased the mill. A stock company with a \$30,000 capital was established, and the mill was fitted up for manufacturing satinet goods, and is doing good business.

In 1818, John Hill built a saw-mill, up the brook west of the Charles Esty place. He got the mill completed, and hung the saw, which was a sash saw, but shortly after, while helping raise the frame for a large barn in Weston, he fell from the frame and was killed. The mill never was run, but was allowed to yield to the hand of time, and crumble away. No man saw fit to take up and push the enterprise that Mr. Hill has commenced. Traces of the old mill are still to be seen.

In 1837, Silas Spaulding built the saw-mill owned for many years by E. P. Kingsbury. In 1843, Joel and Alfred Warner bought the mill, and in the following year, the tannery was built, and they sold off the right to part of the water-power. This divided the power so much that both water-wheels could not be used to advantage at the same time, and often caused unpleasantness between the owners. In 1904, the mill was sold by the Kingsbury heirs to C. H. Howard, F. W. Agan, Frank A. Walker, Geo. P. Levey, James Gill, and George Raymond.

In 1834, Daman and Patch built a one-story building on the site where the H. E. Walker shoddy-mill now stands. It was first used for a carding mill, and later, for weaving



cloth. The work done was mostly custom work for the farmers. The building burned in 1843, and was replaced by a two-story building the following year by Lewis Boynton. Damon and Parker manufactured hay-rakes and fork handles here. The south end of the building was burned in 1848, the north end not being badly damaged. Damon and Parker repaired it the same year. They failed in 1849, and went out of business. In 1850, Thomas Heywood came from Massachusetts, and leased the property for five years. Mr. Heywood put in a saw-mill, and added the manufacture of butter-tubs to the rake and fork business. Previous to the burning of the building in 1848, Alonzo B. Hough operated a veneer machine in the basement, this being the only veneering ever manufactured in town. It was sawed from bird's-eye maple logs.

When Mr. Heywood's lease expired, Rufus Simonds commenced the manufacture of wooden bowls. In 1860, Mr. Simonds took out a patent on the first invention in the United States, of a machine for turning wooden bowls with a rim on the edge. In 1862, Mr. Simonds failed, and Nelson R. Hemenway continued the bowl manufacture till 1865. In 1866, James Roberts bought the property, and run a listing-mill a part of the time up to 1894. In 1895, Geo. H. Levey, Frank A. Walker, and Chas. H. Howard purchased the mill, and commenced the manufacture of reed and rattan chairs. They sold out in the fall of 1896 to Frank Agan, who changed the plant to the manufacture of shoddy. In January, 1897, he put in an engine and boiler to furnish the needed power. In 1920, Herbert E. Walker & Son bought the plant.

In 1828, John Gilbert built a saw-mill on West Hill, on the stream southwest of where Joseph Warren once lived. He did business there but a few years. At this time, it does not seem as though there would have been enough water in that stream, to operate a saw-mill.

About 1822, John Johnson built a saw-mill a little south of Tyson, very near the Plymouth line. The old race-way that run from Black River to where the mill stood, is still traceable. Mr. Johnson did business there a few years, then went West to live. The mill has been gone out of use

for many years. John E. Spaulding built a saw-mill near the site of the Johnson mill, in 1895. It is now owned by Hugh Spaulding.

In 1847, The Orvis brothers built a saw-mill on Jewell Brook. It stood a few rods east from where the late William Fuller lived. Later, Ai Esty bought the property and manufactured chair-stock. A part of this mill was moved near the highway, and made over into a dwelling-house. In 1850, the Orvis brothers built another mill nearly opposite the Clarence Warren apple-orchard. In this way they utilized the power of the water twice, and so did considerable business.

In 1825, John Ordway built a saw-mill on the Calvin Whitney farm on North Hill. It stood a trifle to the northeast of where the little stretcher-mill once stood. As one looks for the water supply to operate a saw-mill on this spot, he can but think that men had the power to operate water-mills on dry land, as the little brook that once fed the pond is nearly dry. The late Paul D. Sears once said of a light hay crop in 1867, "Save what there is, and there will be enough." This rule was probably applied to some of the mills that were built in town in the early days.

The first steam saw-mill ever built in town, was built in 1863, by Asahel J. Severance. It stood on the top of the mountain, on the road leading to Weston. The first circular saw ever used in town for sawing lumber, was used in this mill. Henry Lane, the first sawyer, was a nephew of the Henry Lane who founded the Lane Manufacturing Co., of Montpelier, Vt. The engine and boilers were rated at a hundred and twenty horse-power. They came from Lowell, Mass., and the engine is now in use in the steam saw-mill at Chester, Vt. This was the most extensive lumber mill ever operated in Ludlow. Its capacity was from twenty to twenty-five thousand feet per day of ten hours. In this mill, there was one Muley saw for sawing hard wood lumber, and one circular saw for sawing soft wood. About sixty hands were employed to cut and haul logs, and do the work in the mill, and from twenty to thirty teams to haul the logs to the mill, and the lumber to the station. In the winter of 1865, there were sixty men



chopping cord-wood for the railroad, and forty-four two-horse teams hauling the wood. These woods were a great field of labor in those days. There were eleven dwelling-houses about the mill, where a part of the workmen lived, and three barns for the teams. As this mill was in operation during and immediately after the war of the Rebellion, wages were high, one man with a team receiving from five to five and a half dollars per day. Common log choppers received from forty to forty-five dollars per month, with board. Corn meal sold at from three to four dollars per hundred, and hay, from twenty-six to thirty dollars per ton. Spruce dimension lumber sold for from twenty to thirty dollars per thousand on the cars at the railroad station. Mr. Severance could not make the business pay, and in the fall of 1864, sold out to J. B. Reynolds of Rutland, Vt. He continued the business a little more than a year at a loss, and then sold out to Marcus Richardson, also of Rutland. Mr. Richardson operated the mill about a year and a half, in which time he lost a handsome fortune in the business. He sold out to Samuel Hemenway of Mt. Holly, who was the possessor of a snug little fortune of \$20,000 when he became the owner of the mill. He operated the mill till the fall of 1867, when he moved the mill to the village, and set it on the site where the Fullam and Sons mill stands, now the box-shop. After working hard about two years, Mr. Hemenway failed, and became a poor man. He soon after moved west, accumulated some property, and died in 1882.

Benjamin and Parks bought the mill after Mr. Hemenway's failure. They run the mill about a year, when it burned, and they, too, found a shortage in their accounts, and the business was suspended. A. J. Demary rebuilt the mill, but operated it only a short time, after which it was unused for a few years. In 1885, L. G. Fullam and Prescott Adams revived the business, enlarged the plant, and did a thriving business up to 1894, when the Fullams bought out Mr. Adams' interest. The old barn used by the present company, is one of the barns that stood on the mountain where the mill was first built. Mr. Hemenway moved it to the present location when he moved the mill.

In the later part of 1872 H. N. Parker, A. B. Riggs and W. N. Graves began to manufacture toy carts and doll carriages under the name of Green Mountain Toy Co. The Company reorganized in 1873 under the name of The Ludlow Toy Manufacturing Co. and later in 1873, the Ludlow Manufacturing Company erected a saw-mill in connection with the toy manufactory. The mill stood on the site where the Black River Woolen Mill now stands. This mill was a circular-saw mill, and was operated about sixteen years. In 1870, Paul D. Sears built a saw-mill a little north-west of the Hyland Snell place. It was an up-and-down mill, operated by water power, and was run till 1879, when Mr. Sears had the misfortune to lose his left leg. The building was taken down in 1896.

In 1843, Elijah Putnam built a shop on the site where the Harlan Graham shop later stood, for the purpose of manufacturing chair backs. While Mr. Putnam was in business there, he invented a machine for shaping the chair backs, work that, up to that time, had been done by hand. This was the first machine of the kind, invented in the United States. About 1863, he sold his works to Capt. William Graham, who discontinued the chair back business, and substituted wool carding. The building was destroyed by fire, Dec. 31, 1880, and was rebuilt the following spring. It was operated a few years by his son, Harlan Graham, and the business is now discontinued.

In 1890, Elmore Whitney built a small stretcher-mill on North Hill, a few rods south of the buildings on the Calvin Whitney farm. He run the mill about two years, and it then went out of use.

In 1891, Henry and Charles Harris built a stretcher-mill on Brook Road, on the land formerly occupied by Jerry Magoon. In 1895, Guy Harris bought the mill, and run it till the time of his death in December, 1896. The business was continued by Charles Harris for nearly two years, when he removed the machinery to a mill in New Hampshire.

In 1894, S. A. and E. S. Colton built a stretcher-mill on Pleasant street extension. It was started in September of that year, and was operated about five years.



In 1803, Andrew Pettigrew built a saw-mill a little east of where Simon S. Mayo once lived. He operated the mill for several years. The mill was taken down in 1835, and the timbers in the frame were worked over and used in the construction of one of the barns. When this mill was in operation, Parker, son of Andrew, and father of J. W. Pettigrew, was sawing one night, using the old style up-and-down saw, which was slow in cutting its way through the log. He fell asleep sitting on the log, and after a while was drawn up to the saw. He had on a long frock made of home-made cloth, and the saw caught a part of this, and carried it into the saw. This woke him just in season to escape a violent death.

E. W. Royce built a saw-mill at Grahamsville in 1885. In connection with the saw-mill, he also operated a grist-mill, but only custom grinding was done. In 1901, he sold his mill to the Electric company, and in 1904 the saw-mill was taken down.

In 1897, Ralph and Hugh Barton, brothers, built a steam mill in the southwest part of the town, on the farm then owned by their father, Horace L. Barton. It stands a few rods south of the farm buildings. Feb. 28, 1901, it was burned, but was rebuilt the same year.

In the fall and winter of 1903-04, Billado and Blanchard built a saw-mill on the old Bixby farm. This was a double circular mill, the only one ever used in town. The mill stood west of the Bixby farm-house, near the railroad, and was destroyed by fire Sept. 22, 1905. A few rods north of this mill, the same company built and operated a stretcher mill.

Great improvements have been developed in the past two centuries, in the science of sawing and manufacturing lumber. The first sawn lumber was the product of hand labor. The logs were first hewn square with the broad-axe, then the timbers were elevated from the ground high enough to allow a man to stand upright under the stick. Another man stood on the top of the stick and drew the saw up, and the one in the pit below pulled it down. All the lumber used was sawed by this laborious process. If extra power was needed, two men were stationed at each end

of the saw. The saw used was about four feet long and three inches wide, and was hung in a frame similar to the old-fashioned up-and-down saw. This frame was usually about three feet wide. The men who stood at the top, were obliged to work the hardest, as they had the weight of the frame and saw to draw up, while what was a disadvantage to them, was an advantage to those below, who worked in a continual shower of saw-dust. The timber had to be lined with chalk lines both above and below, and was then sawn to the line to obtain the required dimension. This method of sawing is still practiced in some parts of Italy, Austria, and other countries of the Old World.

In 1925, Wm. W. Adams built a saw-mill on Pond street. The mill is in operation, and doing extensive business. (1931.)

In 1926, Clarence Keith built a saw-mill east of the village, but has not done much business to date, 1931.

## **BLACKSMITHS**

When the immigrants from Massachusetts and Connecticut first came to Ludlow, a quorum of men representing all trades, from the preacher of the gospel down to the more humble blacksmith, were necessary, as now, to form the great chain of mutual interest and progress that binds together the human family. No man however high his standing in this world, is independent of his fellow men. In one way or another, he is dependent upon his neighbor, though few think how many of the comforts and conveniences of their lives pass through the hands of the blacksmith at his forge. None live to themselves alone, but whether bound by the ties of brotherly love, or those of selfish interest, they fulfil the plan of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and keep the great world in working order.

The first blacksmith in Ludlow, was Arioeh Smith, who was born in the town of Foster, R. I. He married Elizabeth Cook of Preston, Ct., now called Griswold.

The parents of Arioeh and Asahel Smith were Richard and Deborah Smith, who came from Ashford, Ct. They



lived with their son, Asahel Smith, on North Hill, and were buried at Ludlow, Vt. The children of Arioch Smith and Elizabeth Cook Smith were:

|           | Born  | Died | Buried                  |
|-----------|-------|------|-------------------------|
| Winsor    | 1794— | 1854 | Louisiana               |
| Zeriah    | 1796— | 1865 | Michigan                |
| Asahel    | 1799— | 1801 | Ludlow, Vt.             |
| Martin    | 1802— |      | N. Y.                   |
| Arza      | 1803— | 1867 | Ludlow, Vt.             |
| Asahel    | 1806— |      | Iowa                    |
| Eliza     | 1808— |      | Cavendish, Vt.          |
| Maria     | 1810— | 1832 | Smithville, Ludlow, Vt. |
| Roxalana  | 1812— |      | Michigan                |
| Frederick | 1814  |      | Indiana                 |
| Angeline  | 1818  |      |                         |

All were born in Ludlow, Vt.

Arioch served his apprenticeship in Plascow, Ct., and while there, shod a horse for Gen. Putnam. In 1794, he came to Ludlow, and built a blacksmith shop just east of the road from the Hines place, on the corner of the Fletcher farm. In 1818, this shop was burned, and he then built one south of the present river road. His house stood on the other side of the road, nearly where the large rock is located on the Hines place. April 17, 1846, he fell and broke his neck while walking in his pasture. He was seventy-nine years of age. He was the grandfather of our former townsman, Winsor J. Smith, and Smithville received its name from him. For more than a hundred years, the sound of the blacksmith's hammer has wakened the echoes over every hill and valley in Ludlow, as will be seen by the list of men who have represented this trade all over town at different times. In Mr. Smith's time, building nails were nearly all forged by the local blacksmiths, from iron nail-rods as they were called. One thousand nails was called a day's work for a blacksmith, and a working day was from day-break till dark. A blacksmith received from seventy-five cents to a dollar per day. Hard coal had not come into use much then, and charcoal was used. The first cut nails were made in Rhode Island in 1775, by Jere-

miah Wilkinson. In 1795, a Mr. Perkins patented the first nail machine. It had the capacity of 200,000 nails per day. This invention took some of the work from the blacksmith, but nails were still forged in small quantities in the new settlements for several years.

The next blacksmith to open shop in Ludlow, was Jesse Marshall, who built a shop on North Hill in 1798. It stood west of the road, opposite to where the first school-house stood in Dist. No. 6. Mr. Marshall did business there a few years, and later the shop was moved, and is now included in the wood-shed of the W. R. Barker buildings.

In 1800, Putnam Bates, father of Addison Bates and grandfather of Geo. W. Bates, came to town and built a shop on the farm known as the Darius Gasset place on South Hill. It is now owned by Fred Tucker. Mr. Bates did business there several years. His shop stood between where the house now stands and the highway. Later it was moved back, and now forms a part of the hog-house.

In 1802, Hyland Snell's grandfather, John Snell, built a shop on South Hill where the late Patrick Sullivan lived, and did an extensive business there for several years. In 1815, Lyman Burnham built a shop on High street, on the ground later occupied by Mrs. Milo Shattuck's garden. In 1828, Mr. Burnham and Emery Burpee built a shop on the site of the one now owned by Fred Fields, near the Mill bridge. In 1848, Joel Warner took down the old shop, and built the present one. L. G. Pierce who owned the shop before Mr. Fields, could shoe a horse quicker than any other blacksmith who ever practiced his trade in this town. He was known to sharpen and set the shoes on twenty-three horses in one day. He belonged to a family of blacksmiths. His great-great grandfather, great grandfather, grandfather, and father were all blacksmiths. The first named ancestor came to this country from Scotland, and settled in New Hampshire.

About 1825, Abel Pratt built a shop which he used for several years, at the junction of the roads in Grahamsville, near the residence of the Gates brothers. It stood west of the road, about six rods north of the house. In 1840, Asahel Ingalls also had a blacksmith shop in Grahamsville. It



stood west of the road near where the red two-story house stands, formerly occupied by Levi Harvey. About 1836, Moody Robinson used the first floor of what was later the residence of L. G. Fullam on East Main street, for a blacksmith shop, and occupied it for several years. Rufus Young occupied for a blacksmith shop, the little red store that was moved from the site of the stone house now owned by Mrs. Moses Townshend, and placed on the land now owned by F. A. Walker's heirs, at the end of the new concrete bridge. Mr. Young did blacksmithing there during the forties.

In 1827, Jacob Patrick built a blacksmith shop on the site now occupied by the east end of the Ludlow Woolen Mills, opposite the north end of the Plumley Garage. Neither the mill nor the boarding-house had been built at this time. Mr. Patrick used this shop until 1833, when it was moved down Main street and located where the block owned by W. D. Sargent now stands. In 1838, Mr. Patrick also built the shop on the corner of Main and Andover streets, now occupied by Vail's Garage. In this shop he erected a trip-hammer to assist him in shaping heavy irons used about his work. It was the only hammer of the kind ever used in town. Mr. Patrick manufactured agricultural implements, such as hoes, hay-forks, etc. He was also noted as a manufacturer of edge tools, such as axes, shaves, adzes, and pump-augers. In those days lead and galvanized iron pipes were not much used. Logs were used in their place, and the pump-augers were made to bore the pump-logs, so called, in lengths of ten feet. At the present time, pump-logs are very little used. Many of the implements of Mr. Patrick's manufacture were sold in Boston. He occupied this shop continuously for thirty years, with the exception of the year 1842, when he was employed as tool-maker at the armory in Windsor, Vt. He was an especially fine workman in the art of working iron and steel, excelled by no blacksmith ever in Ludlow, and equalled at the forge by very few in the country.

About 1835, Francis Bacon built a blacksmith shop on the lot west of the former residence of Chas. S. Parker. The place where the shop stood on East Main street, is

known to many as the Rufus Washburn place. About 1840, Jenne Parker had a shop on High street. It stood on the ground now occupied by the residence of Osceola Heselton. In 1840, Stowell Howe built a cabinet-shop on High street. It stood on the ground now occupied by the garden of Mrs. Emery Bidgood.

About 1858, Alvah Spafford moved the building down to Commonwealth Avenue, and in the eighties, it was used as a blacksmith shop by S. S. Clark. Later it was converted into a tenement house. In 1856, Warren Adams built a blacksmith shop on Main street. It stood just back of the furniture store of the late C. H. Howard. This shop was occupied by Eusebe Dorval, who was one of Ludlow's most skillful blacksmiths. About 1845, Ira Morse built a blacksmith shop at Smithville. It stood a little east of the house once occupied by Mrs. Joseph Bean.

In 1871, Warren Adams built the shop formerly occupied by John N. Lamere, west of Jewell brook on Andover street. In 1837, Martin Snell built a shop on the farm now occupied by Harley Pelky. It stood a few rods west from the present barn. Mr. Snell was quite a noted workman, and had the art of doing many kinds of work. He made many coffins in his shop, at from two to three dollars each. In 1820, Artemus Terrill had a blacksmith shop on South Hill on the Luther Johnson farm. In 1842, Henry Vinton built a shop on Pleasant street. It stood on the site now occupied by the house known as the Edward A. Rock place, now owned by Oscar Fuller. Mr. Vinton forged and made axes of a superior quality. Later, Emery Parker was proprietor. At that time, a driveway led from Main street through on the east side of Hammond's block, to the shop.

In 1864, a blacksmith shop was built by Asahel Severance on the top of the mountain on the road leading to Weston. William C. Spaulding wielded the hammer, and, in a sense, was superior to all the other blacksmiths, as his shop stood on the highest elevation of any in Ludlow. There have been several other blacksmith shops in town, erected for private use.



## CARPENTERS

The first carpenter that moved into town was Ephraim Dutton, who came from Westford, Mass. in 1785. He built the first frame house in town for Josiah Fletcher in 1790. It stood on the site now occupied by the residence of the late J. W. Kimball. The house was appraised at five hundred dollars on the town grand list, at the first appraisal of property in town. In 1806, he built the first Congregational church, fully described in the history of that church. In 1800, Ephriam Warren, the second carpenter, moved into town. He built many houses which are described in the general description of Ludlow village. It would require too much space to give the names of all the carpenters that ever lived in Ludlow, but many of their names will be mentioned in the description of the houses in town. A description of how carpenters had to build houses in the earlier days, will suffice for this place.

When the two carpenters above mentioned went to work to build a house, the lumber and other building material was not worked out by machinery as at the present time. The dimension stock, or square timbers for the frame, was, in most cases, hewed on the ground, as the tree was felled from the stump. At that time, there was but one saw-mill in town, and sometimes the boards for covering the houses were split from the log by hand, then trued up with the broad-axe. There were no planers and matchers in town, or even in the state, to dress lumber for the carpenters. The first planing machine was brought to Ludlow in 1835, and was used on the ground when the first Baptist church was built, for dressing the lumber for that building.

All the finishing lumber was planed by hand, and the doors and window-sash were all made by hand. Window glass was scarce and high-priced, none being obtainable nearer than Boston, Mass. The panes were six by seven inches, or seven by nine, and, in most cases, only four or six panes were used in a window. The nails were all made by the local blacksmiths. They were clumsy, and hard to drive into place. As they were expensive, as few were used as possible. About 1835, the cut nails were introduced,

and were used till 1890, when wire nails came into general use.

In those days, when a farmer built a barn, the posts must all be hard wood, hewed eight by eight inches at the small end, and ten by twelve at the butt. Usually, red beech was used, as beech was considered a non-conductor of electricity, and therefore made the building safer from lightning. Hard wood was used for the braces, and the frames, when put together, were as strong as Noah's Ark. The plates used in the barns, had a groove about an inch deep and an inch and a half wide on the under side, so that the top end of the boards used in boarding up the sides, could be set into the groove, and so nails could be saved.

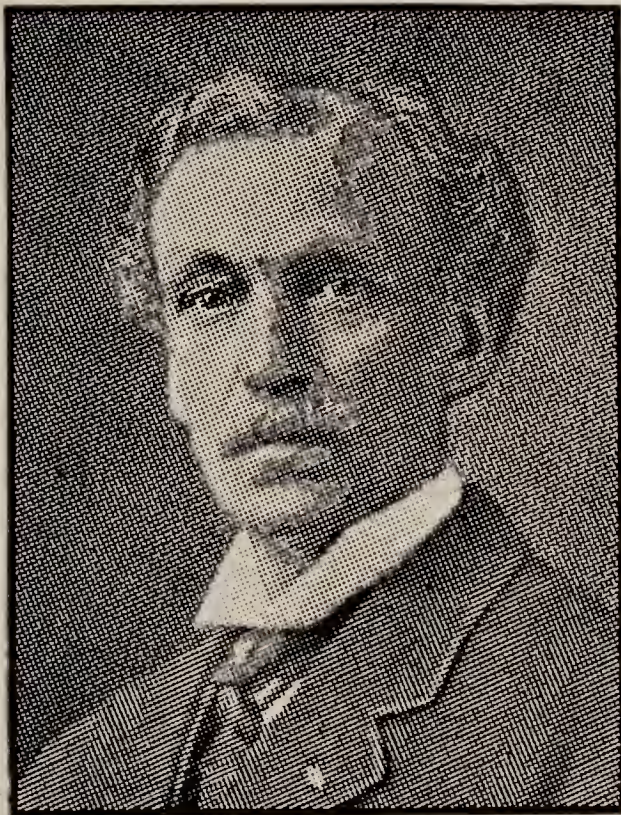
In those primitive days, carpenters had to work from sunrise to sunset for a day's work, and received from "four and six-pence" to six shillings per day, or, in our modern currency, from seventy-five cents to a dollar. Charles P. Chapman was the first carpenter to protest against the fourteen and fifteen hour system in 1870, and demanded that ten hours should constitute a working day. For some time it was the standard for a day's work, but at the present time, the standard is eight hours.

With the advance of time, there has been a demand for better residences, and finer and more commodious business blocks, and great skill has been developed in the carpenter's trade. With the aid of our modern, highly perfected wood-working machinery, a large residence can be built in half the time it took to build one of the rudely constructed houses of a hundred years ago. The first house built in Ludlow, with the modern balloon frame, was built by Albert Chapman in 1856. The house was later owned by Mrs. Susan Flanders, and stands on Pond street.

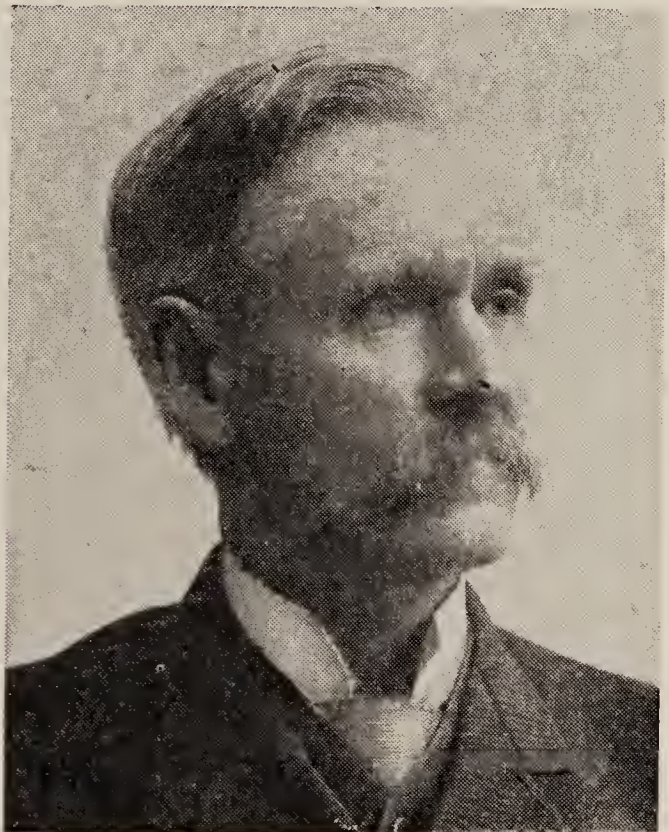


## PHYSICIANS

For the first twenty-seven years after the first settlers came to Ludlow, the town was without a practicing physician. The early pioneers gathered and kept on hand, a supply of barks, roots, and herbs, and the good housewives



Dr. Bryant



Dr. Cooledge

compounded and administered these simple remedies in times of need, or, in severe cases, Dr. Asaph Fletcher of Cavendish was called in. In 1810, Luther, son of Josiah Fletcher, commenced the practice of medicine, and remained till his death which occurred Apr. 6, 1821. He was forty-one years of age, and was called as able a physician as Ludlow ever had. In the same year in which Dr. Fletcher died, Dr. Joshua Warner located in town, and remained till 1835. Some of the time he had a partner, Dr. Hall. Adrian G. Taylor practiced medicine from 1827 to 1846, Daniel Jones, from 1838 to 1854, Wm. B. Weatherbee from 1819 to 1861, Samuel P. Danforth from 1851 to 1853, Wm. H. Chapin from 1850 to 1870. Putnam Burton began practice in 1842, and continued nearly forty years. August-



tus Ross practiced from 1844 to 1855, L. Chase from 1856 to 1861, Harry H. Palmer from 1854 to 1872. Dr. Palmer was a very able physician, and but for the intemperate use of strong drink, would have ranked with the best physicians of his time. He died in Ludlow, Aug. 9, 1872. J. H. Putnam practiced from 1868 to 1876, S. H. Morgan from 1876 till his death in 1888, Geo. E. Lane from 1878 till his death which occurred Nov. 7, 1895. Dr. Lane was born in Westminster, Vt., Feb. 3, 1834. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1859, and for three years after was principal of Leland and Gray seminary at Townshend. In 1863, he commenced the study of medicine at Williamstown, Vt. His death was very sudden, caused by heart disease. His loss was deeply felt by the entire community, as he was a man of genial disposition, broad charity, and active Christianity.

D. F. Cooledge commenced practicing medicine in Ludlow in 1868, and died Sept. 11, 1911, W. N. Bryant came to Ludlow in 1887, and continued here till 1928. Carleton H. Bonney came in 1895, died in Springfield, Mass. July 10, 1929, C. A. Browne in 1896, A. Kilmer in 1893, Chas. H. Bates in 1897, and John Lyston in 1905. Other physicians who practiced in Ludlow for a short time only, are H. S. Boardman, A. F. Moore, W. C. Chandler, Pliny B. Parker, Martin J. Love, S. H. Buteau, J. G. Murphy, George Rustedt, S. Gillette, George Works, and Winfred H. Lane. John E. Galvin practiced from 1923 to 1925, and died June 9, 1925. M. D. Cary, E. B. Holmes practicing in 1931.



## LAWYERS

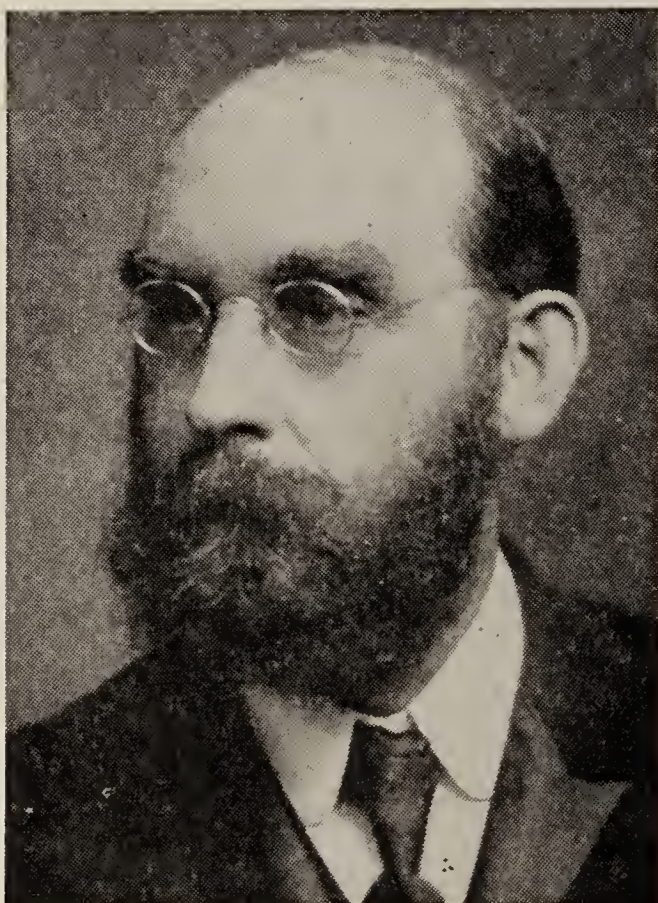
The inhabitants of Ludlow settled their disputes by arbitration for thirty-one years, but in 1814, Nathan P. Fletcher began the practice of law in this place, and the settlement of difficulties by rule began. Mr. Fletcher continued in his profession till 1825, in which year he was succeeded by Judge Reuben Washburn. Sewall Fullam, Jr. became a law student in Mr. Washburn's office in 1828, and about 1832, opened an office of his own. These two lawyers did all the business pertaining to their profession in town till 1839, when Peter T. Washburn, son of the judge, opened an office, and remained till 1844, when the people of Ludlow had become so well disciplined that Mr. Washburn concluded to remove to Woodstock. In 1844, Frederick C. Robbins and Daniel A. Heald opened law offices in Ludlow. Mr. Heald continued here till 1857, and removed to New York City. Mr. Robbins remained here till his death, which occurred Apr. 21, 1888. People in general are not apt to be too credulous of the honesty of lawyers and none of them escape the spite of unsuccessful litigants, nevertheless, both Mr. Heald and Mr. Robbins left in Ludlow unusually fair reputations for truth and integrity.

In 1849, Clark H. Chapman and Reuben H. Washburn, Jr., opened law offices here, and remained till 1854. Volney, son of Sewall Fullam, began the practice of law in Ludlow in 1852, and remained till the breaking out of the Civil War, when he joined the rank of his country's defenders, and was mustered out of the service with the rank of colonel.

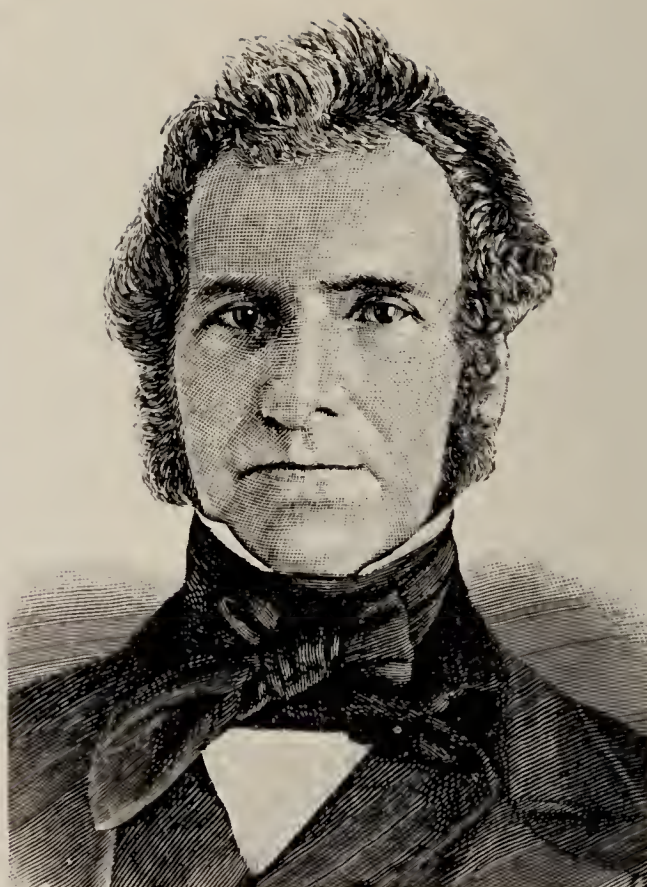
Wm. H. Walker came to Ludlow in 1862, and continued in the practice of the law till 1884, when he was made judge of the Supreme Court of Vermont. He was a man of sound judgment, with a thorough understanding of his profession, and was looked upon as authority in all matters of a legal nature. He was a hard worker, but his health failed him, and the last few years of his life were those of an invalid. He died Aug. 11, 1896.

In 1869, Martin H. Goddard commenced the practice of law in Ludlow, and continued till the time of his death in 1891. He was for several years in partnership with Wm.

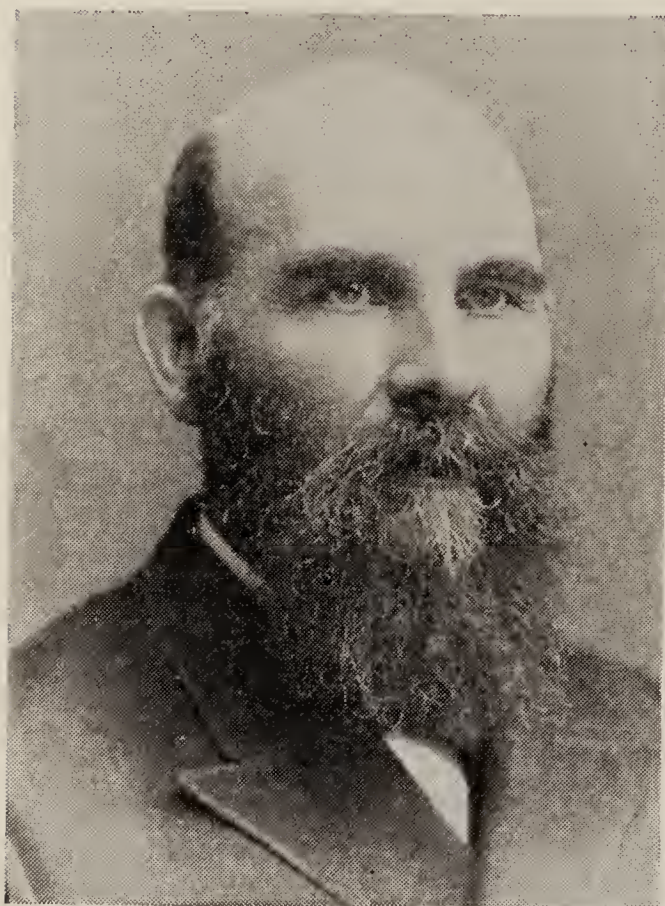




Judge F. A. Walker



Judge Reuben Washburn



Hon. William Walker

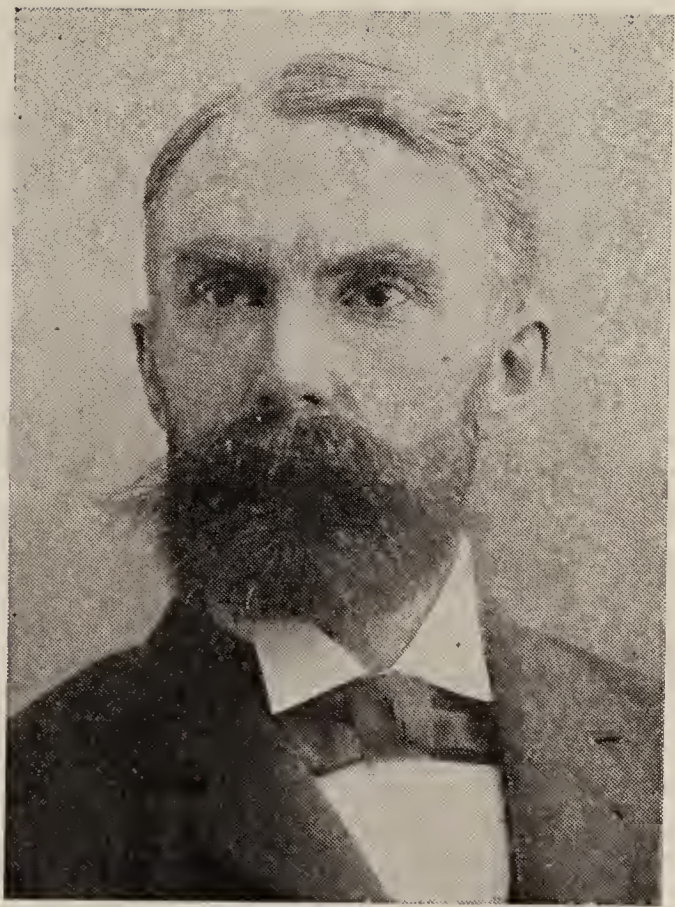


Hon. Martin Goddard





J. G. Sargent



W. W. Stickney

H. Walker, and, like him, was a hard worker. The firm had an extensive business, and at one time, ranked as one of the foremost law firms in the state.

S. A. Giffin practiced law in Ludlow from 1876 to 1880. He then removed to Boulder, Col., where he practiced his profession till his death.

At the present time (1931) there are four practicing lawyers in Ludlow: Wm. W. Stickney, J. G. Sargent, Paul Chase, and Ernest E. Moore.

Homer L. Skeels studied law with Stickney and Sargent, and became a member of the firm. When he resigned, he was succeeded by Paul Chase, and the firm became Stickney, Sargent, & Chase.

Ardain G. Humphrey studied law with Frank A. Walker, was admitted to the bar in 1899, and opened an independent office in 1905. He died Mar. 28, 1907.

## **BLACK RIVER LODGE, NO. 85, F. A. M.**

Some of the first settlers of Ludlow belonged to the Masonic fraternity before they immigrated to this town. Nov. 7, 1812, the first lodge of this order in Ludlow, called Green Mountain Lodge, was organized. The meeting was held at the house of Avery Dennison, who lived at the time in a house that stood south of the road, directly opposite the George Johnson place, now owned by Plumley & Sargent. John Chipman, grand master of the state lodge, was present at the meeting, and granted dispensation to the following charter members: Oliver Gurney, Nathan P. Fletcher, Darius Green, Luther Fletcher, Jennia Parker, Jr., Zacheus Bryant, Daniel Shaw, Avery Dennison, Asa Briggs, Daniel Goddard, John Crowley, Nathan P. Sprague, Simeon P. Read, John Parker, Edwin Ingalls, James Stiles, Jabez Proctor, Solomon Proctor, Salmon Dutton, Jr., Jonathan Atherton, Salmon Dutton, Sr., Joseph B. Wheelock, Joseph Dodge, John Dodge, Samuel White, Uriel Hatch, Jesse Fletcher, Willard Tenney, and John Goddard.

At a meeting held at the same place on Nov. 25, 1812, the following officers were elected: Avery Dennison, master, Nathan P. Fletcher, secretary, Jesse Fletcher, treasurer. The lodge received its charter in the early part of 1813. Asahel Smith was the first man initiated into the order by this lodge. During 1813 and 1814, the meetings were held at Jesse Fletcher's house, on the second floor of the house now standing. The masters elected in this lodge up to 1840 were: Daniel Shaw, Jonathan Gossing, J. Read, Joseph Patterson, Silas Warren, Joshua Warner, Asa Wheeler, and Abel Baldwin. This lodge went out of existence about 1840.

The present lodge was organized June 11, 1868, with the following charter members: Gilman Gay, Chas. E. Smith, Henry D. Foster, Rufus S. Warner, James Roberts, Geo. S. Redfield, Nelson M. Pierce, A. H. Lockwood, A. L. Gould, S. S. Johnson, Edward A. Rock, Geo. F. Mayo, M. V. Clark, Hiram Johnson, W. A. Chapin, W. A. Patrick, J. P. Sherwin, A. F. Hubbard, W. B. Hoskinson, H. C. Pingrey, Wm. Graham, Robert Hoskinson, Dr. J. H. Putnam, Isaac Wadleigh, J. S. Wheeler, A. C. Heselton, Ed. Holden, and J. O.



Pelton, Gilman Gay, Master, C. E. Smith, First Senior Warden, Henry D. Foster, First Junior Warden.

The first meetings of this lodge were held in the upper part of Dr. D. F. Cooledge's house. Later, they removed to John Barretts block, which stood on the site now occupied by the Brown block. The building was destroyed by fire, Dec. 25, 1883. The block was rebuilt in 1884, and another hall was fitted up for the use of the lodge. This was the place of their meetings until 1896, when T. S. Dailey's block was built, and the third floor was fitted up for a Masonic hall. It is finished with North Carolina pine, filled to show the natural grain of the wood. It is one of the finest Masonic halls in the state, and was dedicated Apr. 22, 1896, with a memership of ninety-seven.

### **KEYSTONE CHAPTER, NO. 5, ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR**

This chapter was organized April 22, 1896, with forty-one charter members. First board of officers: Mrs. R. E. Hathorn, Worthy Matron, Dr. W. N. Bryant, Worthy Patron, Mrs. W. D. Ball, Associate Matron, Mrs. N. G. Hammond, Secretary, Mrs. M. R. Chase, Treasurer, Mrs. W. W. Stickney, Conductress, Mrs. H. O. Maxham, Associate Conductress, Mrs. Max Buchold, Adah, Mrs. A. H. Lockwood, Ruth, Mrs. H. E. Phelps, Esther, Mrs. F. H. Holden, Martha, Mrs. J. B. Bradley, Electa, Mrs. C. E. Johnson, Warder, M. R. Chase, Sentinel, Mrs. C. F. Meacham. Chaplain, N. G. Hammond, Marshal, Mrs. C. H. Raymond, Organist.

This order has five degrees to be worked on its members, to complete the work of the order. The purpose of the organization is to help one another on through the walks of life. Their meetings are held once in two weeks in the Masonic hall. The order is very popular, and its membership neary doubled in the first year.

## **ALTIMONT LODGE, NO. 30, I. O. O. F.**

This lodge was organized by Deputy Grand Master Henry W. Hall, Dec. 17, 1887, with the following charter members: A. Bixby, C. L. Johnson, M. M. Tarbell, Freeman H. Fuller, E. A. Merchant, A. J. Aubrey, William Parker, D. W. Clement, E. O. Pratt. First officers: E. O. Pratt. N. G., M. M. Tarbell, V. G., A. Bixby, Sec., C. L. Johnson, Treas. The lodge held its meetings in G. A. R. hall in Hammond's block.

Jan. 17, 1895, a lodge of Daughters of Rebekah was organized in Ludlow, and named Mizpah Rebekah Lodge, No. 29.

In 1893, J. S. Gill built the house on the table-land east of Checkerberry hill, at a cost of \$15,000. It was intended for a summer hotel, but was never opened to the public for that use. July 2, 1895, Mr. Gill donated this house with fourteen acres of valuable land, to the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of Vermont, to be used as a home for any member of the order who became needy, and dependent upon the fraternity for care. This was a very generous and lasting gift, for which the entire community will always hold Mr. Gill's name in grateful memory. The receivers of this valuable gift have remodeled the premises to fit their needs, at a cost of \$10,000, and it is now one of the best Odd Fellows' Homes in the country, and an honor to the fraternity represented in Ludlow. The only resident trustee was L. G. Fullam, who was also treasurer.

In addition to the Home, this organization has also a fine hall in the A. F. Sherman block, built in 1895. This hall was dedicated Feb. 12, 1896. Dr. W. N. Bryant of Ludlow delivered a very appropriate address at the dedication ceremonies. The Home was dedicated May 20, 1896. It was a gala day for Ludlow, to which Dame Nature contributed one of her finest days, with pure air, blue skies, and sunlit landscapes, to brighten the picturesque view from the grounds. Upwards of three thousand people assembled to witness or take part in the exercises. The addresses were well rendered and inspiring. Hon. Hugh Henry of Chester was the first speaker, followed by Dr. W. N. Bryant, who delivered the address of welcome in well chosen words,



and his usual happy style. Interesting speeches were made by several Grand Masters of the order of Odd Fellows, representatives from adjoining states. Grand Master Clinton Collins of New Hampshire spoke befittingly in behalf of Friendship, Love, and Truth, the motto of the brotherhood, illustrated in the three links of their badge. Grand Master Pinkerton of Massachusetts, ably expressed his views bearing upon the same subject. Grand Master Guthrie of New York, was the last speaker, but by no means the least in ability. It was fitting that the Empire state should lend us the chief speaker of the day. Any state in the Union might well feel proud of such a son to represent its interests in any part of the globe.

Immediately after the closing of the exercises, the doors of the Home were thrown open, and an invitation was extended to all visitors, to go through its rooms. Many accepted the invitation, and were well rewarded for the time spent.

Owing to ill-health, Mr. Gill was unable to be present at the dedication ceremonies. Had he been there, he would doubtless, have been much gratified by the many expressions of admiration for the gift, and gratitude to the generous giver. By this act of beneficence, he built a monument of praise, higher than is the fortune of many to attain, whose inscription will be the grateful remembrance of many who will profit by this act of Christianity and brotherly feeling toward this grand order, of which Mr. Gill was not a member. So long as Gill's Odd Fellows' Home stands, his memory will be cherished, not only by the members of this community, but by every Odd Fellow within the state, who looks toward this place as a possible city of refuge, and it will be a continual reminder that man can not live within himself, but must clasp hands with his brother, to obtain the best blessings of this life. As the ways of this life's journey are treacherous, it is a consolation to any member of this order, to know that so pleasant and comfortable a home has been provided for the unfortunate one who fails to garner in a sufficient supply of this world's goods, to bridge over the needs of old age.

## Good Templars

In all ages, and among all classes of mankind, intoxicating drinks have worked ruin to the users. From the days when Noah "planted a vineyard", to the present time of boasted civilization in the homes of culture and refinement as well as in the huts of savages, man has sacrificed his best gifts for the gratification of his appetite for strong drink. So common, indeed, was this vice among our ancestors, that it was scarcely considered a vice at all, and when Ludlow was settled, the jug of rum was considered an essential in every household. At raisings and log-rolling bees, intoxicating drinks were considered indispensable, and such gatherings often ended with what, in these days, would be called a drunken carouse. The more serious minded soon saw the necessity for checking the tendency to intemperance, and the movement was begun which, is referred to in the history of the Congregational Church. The members of the first temperance organization, were called Sons of Temperance, and through their efforts, many were induced to sign the pledge to abstain from the use of intoxicating beverages. This society was after a time disbanded, and later, a society for a similar purpose was organized, called the Independent Order of Good Templars. The first lodge of this order in Ludlow, No. 57, was organized Aug. 27, 1867, with thirty-three charter members. The following officers were elected: H. W. Albee, W. C. T., Miss A. L. Dornin, W. V. T., D. Palmer, W. S., W. H. Pratt, W. F. S., J. O. Pelton, W. T., N. M. Pierce, W. D. T., Orlando Osborn, W. M., Miss E. J. Burton, W. I. G., A. Gibson, W. O. G. The officers were appointed for the two ensuing months, when the following yearly officers were elected: Mrs. N. M. Pierce, R. H. S., Mrs. J. H. Putnam, L. H. S., Miss Nellie Pelton, W. A. S., Mr. Praddex, W. C., Mrs. H. W. Albee, W. D. M.

The lodge at one time attained a membership of over fifty, but some of the members losing their interest in the work, and others becoming discouraged because of the inefficiency of the civil authorities in executing the prohibitory laws, enacted by the state, the lodge in Ludlow was disbanded in 1874



## THE RAILROAD

In 1847, the surveying for this branch of the Rutland division of the Central Vermont rail-road commenced, and three routes were surveyed, one from Brattleboro up West River to Weston, then over the mountain to Rutland. But this route did not seem to furnish an easy grade over the mountain. Another survey was made from White River Junction up the Ottaquechee River to Sherburne, then across the mountain to Rutland. This route also proved to give a high grade, so still another was surveyed from Bellows' Falls to Proctorsville, where the road was eventually built.

From Proctorsville, the survey followed up the north side of Black River to the Bailey bridge above Ludlow village. At this point it was intended to cross the river, follow the west bank as far as the west branch, then follow that stream to where the crossing known as the Mt. Holly crossing now is. This route, like the preceding ones, did not seem practicable, and another survey was made from Proctorsville to the Mt. Holly crossing, where the road now runs. This route gave an average grade from Bellows' Falls to "the Summit," of about seventy feet per mile.

At first, the only objection to building the road where it is, was the difficulty in spanning Jewell Brook. The idea of building the road here would have been given up, had it not been for the "Hog-back", a peculiar, natural elevation of earth, extending nearly from the east end of the high bridge to the culvert opposite the mill-yard of the Ludlow Mfg. Co's Box-shop, where a small stream passes under the railroad. Considering the aid of this natural filling, this route was decided to be the most practicable, and work was begun on the road in February, 1848.

The first shovelful of earth moved in Ludlow, was on the "Hog-back". This natural ridge was originally about fifteen feet higher than the present road-bed. On the west side of Jewell Brook, the road-bed from the bridge to where it crosses the West Hill highway, had to be filled and graded. This filling was all done with teams, (horses or mules and carts) and the frozen earth was broken by drilling holes, and blasting with powder. The rails were

distributed along the line from Ludlow to "the Summit" with mule teams. The teamsters would race their teams from Bailey bridge to Main street, some by the way of Pond street and others by the "dug-way" road, to see which would reach their destination first. Usually, those who chose the "dug-way" were victorious.

As spring advanced, and the frost got out of the ground, several gangs of workmen were stationed along the line, each gang having its foreman, and more or less jealousy existed among these gangs. Rum was plenty, and used freely, especially on Saturday nights. There were frequent riots, and not a few were injured. Many arrests were made, but the verdicts did not always bring peace to the better class of inhabitants.

The greater part of the help employed in bulding the rail-road, were Irish direct from the old country, and their children being very numerous, made it difficult for the teachers to manage public schools. A great many men were employed in opening the stone-cut in Section Eight, yet it took nearly two years to cut through the rocks. It was more difficult to drill and break the ledge then, than it would be now, as dynamite was unknown, and common blasting-powder was used in large quantities.

Several small shanties were built near the rail-road, to accommodate the families of some of the laborers, and the railroad company had a powder-house just west of the cut, where, at one time, there were a hundred kegs of powder stored. One Sunday afternoon in September, 1849, some of the Irish boys were at play around this storage house, strewing powder along in the grass in zig-zag lines, then setting it on fire to see it burn. In their trips from the power-house, where a loosened board gave them access to the supplies within, they accidentally dropped small quantities of the powder which they were carrying, till a train was formed from their play-ground to the main supply, and the fire, catching in this, ran to the store-house causing the most terrible explosion ever known in these parts. The report was heard in all directions for a distance of more than twenty-five miles. Buildings were moved on their foundations, and the concussion broke the windows of the Sawtelle house, where L. W. Barton now lives.



Services were being held in the several churches in the village, and the congregations rushed out, thinking there was an earthquake. There were eight boys at play, and three of them were blown to pieces beyond recognition. These were Michael Sullivan, William Canhill, and James Orake. The remains were put into one box, and buried together. One limb was blown about sixty rods, and was found in the road in front of the John Pinney house. A timber was thrown nearly a mile, to the farm on West Hill, where Joseph Warren once lived. On the morning of the day of the explosion, the mother of one of the boys told him to go out of the way, and that she did not want to ever see him again. She never did, and her sorrow was beyond description, when her loss was made known to her. The hole in the earth caused by the explosion, is still to be seen.

An accident occurred from the use of blasting-powder at this time, which is note-worthy, though not strictly an item of Ludlow history. While the railroad was being opened through the stone-cut below Cavendish station in 1849, one of the laborers, Albert Gage, in tamping the powder into a hole that had been drilled in the ledge, ignited the powder, which exploded and shot the iron bar which he had been using, through his head. The bar, which was an inch and an eighth square by four and a third feet long, entered inside the curve of the under jaw, and came out about an inch in front of the center of the crown. It passed through its entire length, and portions of the brain were found adhering to it. The bar is now in the Boston Museum.

Mr. Gage was taken to the Cavendish hotel, but as his injury was supposed to be necessarily fatal no attempt was made to dress the wound till the following day, but he recovered, and lived ten years after the accident.

The first high bridge over Jewell Brook, was built in 1849. It was a wooden bridge, and part of the lumber was sawed in the old saw-mill north of Black River, where Jesse Spaulding's grain store now stands. It was completed so that trains passed over it in the fall of the same year. The great freshet of July, 1850, raised the waters of Jewell Brook so high that they undermined the stone pier that supported the middle of the bridge, letting it fall.

The bridge also went down and had to be rebuilt. At that time, the dam stood about sixty feet above the bridge. The railroad company had it removed to where it now stands, in order to prevent the middle pier from being washed out in times of high water.

The freshet of 1850 was very sudden and destructive, produced by a shower of short duration. It was supposed to be a cloudburst. The meadow south of the railroad now used as a playground, was completely flooded, and the inmates of several shanties on this lot, had to be rescued with boats, the water rising as high as the windows.

Under the old bridge were two wooden trestles, one east of the highway, and the other west of the pond. The freshet of 1869 washed out the east trestle, and trains passed over the bridge for several days without it.

In July, 1895, the old bridge was taken down and replaced by an iron bridge. The old bridge had stood as a public servant for forty-seven years, and during this period of time, material of every conceivable kind, messages of all descriptions, and people of all nationalities, had been rolled across it. It had become a familiar landmark, and was a spoke in the great wheel that moves on the business of the world.

July 18, 1895, the first piece of iron-work for the new bridge was put into place, it being the center post on the south side of the bridge, over the stone pier. On the above date, while one of the side girders, weighing seven tons, was being put into place with pulleys on the north side of the bridge, one of the pulleys broke and let the girder fall into the pond. Peter Fox, of Rochester, N. Y., who was at work on a staging about fifteen feet above the bridge, was precipitated seventy-five feet into the water below. One leg was broken, and he was badly bruised about the hips, but fortunately escaped fatal injury. It is a mystery how he could fall such a distance, and escape instant death.

The new bridge was finished Sept. 7, 1895, at a cost of about \$25,000. It contains two hundred and eighty-five tons of iron and steel, and 65,000 rivets hold the sections together. The length of the bridge is two hundred and eighty-five feet, and the expansion in warm weather, about



seven-eighths of an inch, or one-fourth of an inch per hundred feet. It is an open deck bridge, very strong and durable, and, under ordinary conditions will out-last the entire present population of Ludlow.

The railroad in this town was very expensive to build, the average cost per mile in the state being \$57,000, while some miles of the road in Ludlow cost \$200,000. The first railroad station was built in 1849, and stood about where the present one stands, only across the track, so that trains ran through the station. Night trains were not run, so the station doors were locked at night. It was only a temporary, rough board building. All the business was done in this building, ticket office, express office, telegraph office, baggage and freight departments, all in one. This depot was used about two years, and in 1851, the present station was built. It was overhauled and repaired in 1894.

Daniel Perry was the first station agent, and remained till September 1, 1854, when E. W. Smith took the office, and served as station agent, expressman, and telegraph operator for thirty-six years. Through all these years, Mr. Smith proved a faithful servant, both to his employers, and the people he served. In 1889, S. E. Wright came, and filled the office for two and a half years, and then E. W. Smith served again for nearly a year. In 1893, he resigned, having served the railroad company for half of his long life. Probably no other man will ever endure the monotony, the care, and perplexities of this office, for as long a time as Mr. Smith did.

F. R. Smith of St. Albans, served as station agent for nearly two years. John Hull was the first baggage master. He remained about ten years. John Dailey also served in this capacity for three years before entering the U. S. service for overthrowing the Rebellion. Then Levi Coffin took charge of that department for about five years. In 1870, Mr. Dailey again took the office, and remained about twenty years, an obliging and faithful servant.

When the building of this railroad was first proposed, people in general, and especially the owners of stage routes, said it would be an impossibility to run cars over the mountain, and freight never could be hauled through the

country as cheaply by steam power as by teams. But the inventive power of man, and the science of civil engineering successfully executed the scheme, and proved that the horse and mule could no longer compete with steam in moving the produce of the country from one point to another. Yet railroads have not reached their maximum of power. Before the first quarter of the twentieth century has passed, electricity will have superseded steam in hauling railroad trains, as it has already taken the place of horses on street cars.

There have been many improvements in engines since they first ran over this road. The first ones weighed from twenty-six to thirty tons, with two drive-wheels from five to six feet in diameter on each side. They could haul only from ten to thirteen empty cars up this mountain grade, while the engines in use on the freight trains at the present time can haul from fifty to sixty cars up the mountain with comparative ease. They weigh from one hundred to one hundred and three tons, and have four drive wheels on a side, each less than four feet high, thus increasing the gravitation of the wheels to the rails.

When the railroad was completed, the question arose by what route the U. S. mail could be carried most cheaply and expeditiously, from Bellows' Falls to Essex Junction by ways of the Valley R. R., via White River Junction and Montpelier, or by this road. Two contests were held, in each of which this road came off victorious. Then many believed that the mail could be carried more quickly on horseback than by steam power, and the contest was tried by using relays of horses and running them all the way. Even then the iron horse arrived at its destination an hour sooner than the steed of flesh and blood.

About 1852, a freight train was going up the mountain grade, and just this side of the Summit, the two rear cars broke from the train, and, there being no brakeman on them to set the brakes, and being heavily loaded with railroad rails, they came rolling down the mountain grade at a fearful rate of speed. They ran to the Cavendish grade, and stopped. Fortunately, there was no other train on that piece of road. At the first crossing below Ludlow station, one of the rails left the car, and was driven the whole



length through a telegraph pole about ten inches in diameter. The rate of speed could not be even approximately estimated. If they had collided with a passenger train, the result must have been terrible.

Previous to 1885, wood was used altogether for fuel for firing the boilers on this road, but at that time the engines on passenger trains began using coal, and in 1891, the use of wood was abandoned on all engines. This injured the wood trade to a great extent, as the railroad company had bought thousands of cords yearly, thus distributing thousands of dollars to the farmers in every town along the road.

### **EXPRESS TRAFFIC**

Alvin Adams was born in Andover, Vt., June 16, 1804. He was the first man in this country to establish the express business. When the Boston and Norwich railroad was opened between Boston and New York in 1840, Mr. Adams commenced the express business, carrying it on with two trunks, and making the trip over the line once in twenty-four hours. From then to the present time, the Adams Express Company has ranked with the first express companies in the world. The first express brought to Ludlow, was in 1849. Henry Howe, brother to Gardner I. Howe, was the expressman.

### **POST-OFFICE**

Previous to 1791, the mail service of Vermont was managed by its own local government. Anthony Haswell of Bennington was Postmaster General for the jurisdiction of Vermont. The mail routes of the state were from Bennington to Rutland, from Bennington to Newbury, from Bennington through Brattleboro to Windsor, and from Bennington to Albany, N. Y., where the Vermont mail connected with the mail routes of the United States. Over these routes, the mail was carried on horse-back, a trip being made once a week. Another branch of the service carried the mail from the general offices to the towns and new settlements in unorganized townships off the main lines of de-

livery. These mail carriers also went on horse-back, delivering the mail once in two weeks. This method continued to be employed till suitable turnpike highways were constructed. When, in 1791, Vermont was admitted into the Union, this local mail service was superseded by the U. S. Mail Service, and the overland mails were carried by stage, till the introduction of railroads.

In the early history of Vermont, the amount of mail carried was so small that the rate of postage had to be very much higher than it is now. The rate varied according to the distance that a letter was carried. For instance, the postage on a letter from Vermont to Ohio was ten cents, and to California it was twenty-five cents. The lowest rate to any point was six and a fourth cents, that being the smallest fractional currency in use previous to 1803, when the first half dimes were coined. Envelopes were first used in 1837. Previous to this, letters were folded in various fashions, the outside page being left blank for the superscription, and were sealed with sealing-wax or wafers.

The first post-office in Ludlow was, as nearly as can be ascertained, in 1790, at the house of E. A. Goodrich, who lived where the Willard Johnson house now stands. Asa Fletcher was post-master from Oct. 1, 1809 to Feb. 19, 1811. Nathan P. Fletcher served from that date till June 23, 1825. The post-office occupied part of a small building that then stood in front of where Wm. P. Spafford formerly lived. The other part of the building was Mr. Fletcher's law office. Asa Fletcher was again post-master from June 23, 1825, to Aug. 11, 1827, followed by Zacheus Bates who held the office till Mar. 10, 1830, the office being in the house on East Main street where Miss Madeline Billings once lived. Benjamin Billings was post-master from Mar. 10, 1830, to June 9, 1831, and Emory Burpee, from June 9, 1831, to Mar. 22, 1832. The office was removed to the south side of the river in 1832, to the Sewall Fullam house on Main street, later the residence of B. B. Fullam. John How was post-master from Mar. 22, 1832, to Feb. 20, 1835. The office was then removed to Stephen Cummings store, (later Colonel Hathorn's harness-shop) and remained there till 1839, with Richard Fletcher in charge, from Feb. 20, 1835 to Jan. 28, 1839. It was then removed to D. L. Green's



store, where the Hammond block now is, and John Dunbar was post-master from Jan. 28, 1839, to Aug. 30, 1842, succeeded by Daniel Perry from Aug. 30, 1842, to Aug. 3, 1844. In that year it was removed to the Ludlow House, and John R. Smith was post-master from Aug. 3, 1844 to May 16, 1845. The office was again removed to the Haven store on the corner of Main and Depot streets, now occupied by Chiolino's fruit store. Chas. S. Mason was post-master from May 16, 1845 to Nov. 8, 1849. In 1849, the office was removed to the Armington store, where the Bank building now stands, with Reuben Washburn as post-master from Nov. 8, 1849 to June 1, 1853. In 1853 the office was removed to Charles S. Mason's store, (later occupied by Chas. Raymond & Son), with Charles S. Mason as post-master from June 1, 1853, to July 7, 1862. In 1862, the office was again removed to L. G. Hammond's block, with John R. Spafford for post-master from July 7, 1862, to Feb. 28, 1884. The office remained in Hammond's block during this period, with the exception of about a year from the burning of the block in the spring of 1871 till the new block was completed in 1872. During that time, the office was kept in the H. O. Peabody block, in the room which is now the Vermont Tribune office. Mr. Hammond received the first postal card that came through this office in May, 1873. The office was moved to A. J. Brown's block in 1884, and A. H. Lockwood succeeded Mr. Spafford as post-master from Feb. 28, 1884, to April 11, 1887. Ira Goddard was post-master from April 11, 1887 to Feb. 27, 1890, followed by E. A. Howe from Feb. 27, 1890, to Feb. 27, 1894. Daniel Reed was post-master from Feb. 27, 1894, till Aug. 2 1897, when he died. This was the first death of an incumbent of this office that ever occurred in Ludlow. His daughter, Miss Mary Reed, received the appointment to complete the term. E. A. Howe again became post-master, Oct. 1, 1897, till 1914, when John R. Rock succeeded him, and continued in the office till 1923. In that year, L. E. Boyce became post-master, and holds the office at the present time, 1931.

In 1890, the U. S. mail service appointed free delivery for forty-six villages in Vermont, Ludlow being one of them. It began July 1, 1890, and continued till July 1,

1896, and was then discontinued, it being proved that the extra postage received did not pay the expense of delivery in most of the towns. Although Ludlow furnished a sufficient increase to pay its postman, it was discontinued from the free delivery system with the other towns. The amount of mail received in Ludlow more than doubled under this system, the most of the increase being in religious and daily papers.

W. W. Fish was the postman during the term of free delivery. The post-office was removed to the south end of Gill's block in 1899, and removed to the Town Hall building in 1904. In the same year, the U. S. Government laid out two routes for rural free delivery from the Ludlow post-office. A. L. Taft was appointed carrier on Route No. 1, and E. A. Rowe on Route No. 2.

## HOTELS

The first hotel in Ludlow was opened by Joseph Green, who, in 1788, erected a log house in that part of the town now included in Mt. Holly. A few years later, he built the house and barn where W. B. Hoskinson's family lived, still called by many old people, "the Green stand." In the old days of staging, Mr. Green sometimes kept as many as a hundred horses, and sold as many barrels of spirituous liquors every year.

In 1790, E. A. Goodrich made his bow to the then scanty public, as the landlord of Ludlow's second public house. He located, and built his log house on the site where the Willard Johnson house stands, east of the village. In those days, there were not many roads in town, and the amount of travel was very limited. Therefore, Mr. Goodrich had but little business as an inn-keeper. We are told on good authority, that the first mails brought to town were distributed here. Avery Dennison ran the house for a few years after Mr. Goodrich went out. There were less than a hundred people in town at that time, and the stage lines had not been opened. Travelling was done on horse-back. This tavern went out of existence about 1800.



In 1808, Nathan P. Fletcher, son of Josiah Fletcher, built a hotel where Henry Scott lived later, and did business there for a few years. Previous to 1830, the barns belonging to this hotel, stood on the site later occupied by the first Universalist Church. In 1814, Abel Woodward, grandfather of Norris H. Woodward, became manager of the house. He gave the town the land for the park in front of the Baptist Church, with the proviso that it should not be used for any other purpose.

In 1822, Andrew Johnson became proprietor, remaining but a few years, when Elijah Scott bought the property, and ran it as a hotel until 1853, and later, the house was open summers to city boarders. This old stand was for many years the only hotel in town, and did a flourishing business before the railroad was built. All the stage-drivers with their cargoes of travelers, put up here, as well as all the teams that transported products to and from Boston. The old stand did a lively business while the railroad was being built. The liquor traffic increased rapidly, so a Mr. Franklin Riggs opened a bar in his house, which stood on the site now occupied by the residence of Hon. W. W. Stickney. The lovers of new rum would first sample Mr. Scott's offering, then Mr. Riggs's supply would be sampled. New rum was sold at three cents a glass, or six cents a pint. The reader can imagine for himself what an effect this must have had on the community. In the spring of 1845, Mr. Riggs being about to paint his house, asked the Rev. Wattos Warren, a Congregationalist clergyman who was passing by, what color he had better use, and received the reply that the color of West India rum would be appropriate. Mr. Riggs, being offended, replied with an oath that he would paint it the color of Mr. Warren's character, and the house received a coat of black paint.

The old Scott tavern was burned in 1888, and a residence was built on the same site, by Henry Scott, son of the proprietor of the tavern. After the highways were opened so that the mail was carried by coaches, the first U. S. mail carriers put up at the Scott tavern.

About 1798, Thomas Bixby ran a hotel on the farm now owned by his great-great-grand-daughter, Mrs. Mary Bixby

Murphy. He sheltered and refreshed the weary traveler for several years.

The first house used for a hotel south of the river in Ludlow Village, was built in 1830 by Emery Burpee, and was built for a residence. Mr. Burpee sawed the lumber to build the house, in the old saw-mill that stood north of the river, where J. H. Spaulding's grist-mill now stands, and carried most of the lumber to the place where it was used, on his back. It is said that he was very strong. Soon after this house was built, John Howe, father of the late G. I. Howe, occupied it, and opened a hotel here. Later it was used as a factory boarding-house.

The western part of the Ludlow House was built by Moses Haven and his son Augustus in 1830 for a double residence. The brick were made by Thomas Keyes, referred to in the account of the brick-yards. Mr. Haven did not live long to enjoy his new residence. Oct. 4, 1831, he went to Boston to purchase goods. Three days later, he went to Cambridge, was taken sick the same night, and died Oct. 8, 1831, aged forty-eight years. In those days, railroads telegraphs, and telephones were unknown to the residents of Ludlow. A messenger was sent from Cambridge on horse-back, to deliver the news to Mrs. Haven. It took him about twenty-four hours to make the journey. Mrs. Haven immediately started by stage for Cambridge but met the party bringing the remains near Fitchburg.

In 1842, Mr. Haven's residence was opened by Isaac Johnson as a hotel, it being the fifth public house opened in town. It was known for many years as the Green Mountain House. Many of the teams and teamsters hauling produce from the towns west and north of Ludlow to Boston, put up at this house. Mr. Johnson remained about three years. Sept. 23, 1845, Augustus Haven deeded his interest in the house to his mother, Sophia Haven, and his brother-in-law, John R. Smith, a brother of our veteran station agent, E. W. Smith.

In 1848, Mr. Smith leased the house to C. C. White and G. R. Richardson. Mr. Richardson remained two years, when he retired, and Mr. White took Augustus Maynard into partnership, with whom he remained five years. In



1850, Mr. Maynard's sister, Mary, married Prof. Hiram Hitchcock, then principal of Black River Academy.

Dec. 13, 1855, J. R. Smith and wife deeded the premises to George Wood. He remained in the hotel two years, and during this time, Luther E. Wright became interested in the premises through a mortgage. In 1856, Mr. Wright built on the wood part to this house, which contained a large dancing-hall with a spring floor, the only one of the kind ever built in Ludlow. The name of the house was changed to The Ludlow House when the wood addition was built.

The property again changed hands and was deeded to Warren Adams Feb. 10, 1857, by Luther E. Wright, and George Wood deeded him the remaining interest the following day. Mr. Adams was very much liked by the patrons of this house. He is still remembered by many of our townsmen, as the most extensive ox-dealer that ever lived in Ludlow. He would trade and shift oxen from one farmer's barn to another, in about the same manner that a boy would exchange marbles with a playmate.

Mr. Adams sold the hotel to Geo. H. Cole, Apr. 23, 1864. Mr. Cole remained three years, and then deeded the premises, Apr. 23, 1867, to Lawson Dawley, son of the first male child born in Mt. Holly. Mr. Dawley remained three years, and sold out to Henry A. Howe and C. A. Moore, Feb. 16, 1870. Mr. Howe died while in possession, and his widow, Mary, sold the premises to Louisa L. Green, wife of Henry A. Green. During Mrs. Howe's ownership, the house was leased for short periods to D. L. Jenneson, Henry Harris, George Richards, and George Mandigo.

Mar. 10, 1882, Henry A. Green and wife sold the house to Hiram L. Warner, who run the house a while, and then leased to his son, E. P. Warner, for a short time. H. L. Warner then returned for a short time, and then leased to C. P. Colton, who remained till 1900, when C. F. Knowlton took charge of the house.

Mar. 6, 1897, the property was purchased by Geo. H. Levey, Chas. H. Howard, L. C. Howe, and F. A. Walker, the company being known as the Ludlow Hotel Company. The house was over-hauled and repaired the same year.

In 1843, Harvey H. Dyer built the house by the Branch bridge at Grahamsville, known by some as the Archer place. This house was used for a hotel for several years, and it was here that the help working on the stone cut in Section Eight, during the building of the railroad, found a meeting-place for drinking, story-telling, and so on. The place became a public nuisance, and went out of date as a hotel, with the completion of the railroad.

The large house facing the upper end of Main street, now occupied by the Woodward schoolhouse, was built for a hotel by Abram Adams in 1849. At that time the railroad was being constructed, and Mr. Adams expected that the depot would be built near the Goodspeed crossing, west of the village. In that event, his hotel would be in the right place to catch the custom of the travelling public, but through the efforts of other citizens, the depot was built where it now stands, and consequently, the Woodward residence was never used as a hotel.

The Goddard House, now called The Okemo Tavern, was built in 1891, by Chas. W. Goddard, at a cost of about \$5,000, and has since been doing a thriving business. The writer of this history was the constructor.

## NEWSPAPERS

The first newspaper published in Ludlow, came out Jan. 1, 1847, and was called The Genius of Liberty. It was started by Rev. Aaron Angier. After issuing it two years, he sold it to Rufus and Asa Barton in 1849. In 1851, the paper was purchased by G. A. Tuttle, who changed the name to The Vermont Star, and in 1852, removed it to Rutland. The next paper was a weekly called The Blotter. R. S. Warner and W. A. Bacon were the publishers. The first number was issued Sept. 14, 1854. In November, 1856, J. A. Porter became associate editor. A year later, the concern was sold out by the sheriff, and was bought out by Mr. Warner, who, after issuing one number, suspended the publication. In January, 1860, Mr. Warner again made an attempt at journalism, and issued The



Voice among the Mountains. The following year, Hon. Wm. H. Walker became editor, and, April 18, 1862, Moses Burbank became associate editor. The following September, Mr. Walker withdrew, and during the remainder of the year, the paper was issued monthly, and died out with the closing of the year.

Apr. 17, 1866, The Transcript was founded by D. E. Johnson, who died in October of the same year. The property was purchased by Mr. Milliken of the Brattleboro Record. He discontinued its publication shortly after, as the paper did not meet with sufficient public favor to ensure success. The Black River Gazette was established Dec. 19, 1866, by R. S. Warner and Moses Burbank, the latter being editor. He died in the following March, and was succeeded by Henry D. Foster. Mar. 20, 1869, Stillman B. Ryder and Martin H. Goddard became editors. The following May, Mr. Goddard was sole editor, but resigned Sept. 17, 1869, and was succeeded by Mr. Ryder as editor. In June, 1870, the firm was Warner & Ryder. July 11, 1873, Wm. A. Bacon became the manager, remaining until January, 1874, when D. C. Hackett purchased the paper. He published it in Ludlow only a short time, but removed it to Brandon, changing its title to The Otter Creek News. It went out of existence in 1882.

The present paper, The Vermont Tribune, was established by the Mott Brothers, Nov. 24, 1876. In the following February, F. W. Bacon became the manager, but in September of the same year, sold out to W. A. McArthur. In July 1879, Rev. Lewis B. Hibbard assumed control. In April, 1881, E. G. Allis purchased the paper of Mr. Hibbard, and became manager. The paper at that time had a circulation of eight hundred and fifty copies. He enlarged it and increased its circulation to 2,550 copies. Rev Edward E. Crane purchased the business Jan. 1, 1890, and managed it with success until his death, June 21, 1893. He was thrown from his bicycle and fatally injured, while on his way from Ludlow to Woodstock. He was highly esteemed by the entire community, and was greatly missed, being an earnest and thorough worker in all undertakings for the public welfare. Mrs. Crane retained the ownership

of the Tribune, with Rev. Evan Thomas as editor and manager, till Sept. 1, 1899. In 1921, the paper passed into the hands of the present owners, The Vermont Newspaper Corporation. Since Nov. 4, 1921, the Tribune has been published in Bellows Falls, Vt.

In 1891, R. S. Warner started a paper called The Enterprise. For two years it was issued monthly, then weekly for about a year.

In 1894, the students of Black River Academy published a small paper called B. R. A. Record. Miss Alice M. Crane, daughter of E. C. Crane, was managing editor. Miss Anna M. Stearns, Sybil M. Burton, Henry Howard, and George Levey were assistants, Miss Mary E. Reed, correspondent for the alumni, and Winfred H. Lane, business editor. The little paper was a very interesting one, and a credit to the culture of the students of Black River Academy. It is to be regretted that it became necessary to stop the publication of the paper, owing to the want of financial support.

## METEORIC SHOWER

On Nov. 13, 1833, there was the most magnificent meteoric display ever recorded as witnessed by man, and the shower of shooting stars was the most universal. The whole firmament above this country was for hours in fiery commotion. No celestial disturbance was ever seen in this country since its first settlement, which was viewed with such intense admiration by one class, or with so much dread and alarm by another. Many believed that the rising sun would bring the day of judgment.

The display as described by Prof. Silliman, was seen all over North America, but the chief scene of the exhibition was within the limits of longitude  $61^{\circ}$  in the Atlantic Ocean, and  $100^{\circ}$  in central Mexico, and between the great North American lakes, and the southern coast of the island of Jamaica. The scene above this vast area, far surpassed, in grandeur and magnificence, the loftiest reach of the human imagination. From two o'clock A. M. till broad daylight, the sky being perfectly serene and cloudless, an



incessant play of dazzlingly brilliant meteors was kept up in the whole heavens. Some of these were of great magnitude and most peculiar form. One of large size remained for some time almost stationary in the zenith above the Falls of Niagara, emitting streams of light which radiated in all directions. The wild dash of the waters, contrasting with the fiery commotion above, formed a scene of amazing and awe-inspiring sublimity, a grand display of fireworks whose extent and duration was controlled only by Omnipotence.

The brightest display of this celestial shower in New England, was in and about Boston and its harbor. For some mysterious reason, the most beautiful displays were seen about the largest bodies of water in North America. Over the whole area covered by the shower, a hissing sound could be heard, caused by the rapid passage of the meteors through the atmosphere. The preceding day had been exceedingly warm, and a period of extreme cold of about two weeks in duration succeeded. After this, the weather was unseasonably warm, again succeeded by a cold period, lasting through April, May, and June.

The inhabitants of Ludlow viewed this wonderful vision from their homes among the mountains, but none are now living who witnessed the glorious sight.

## THE COLD YEAR

The year of 1816 was called the cold year, there being frost in every month. Several inches of snow fell in June, and on the morning of the fourth of July, there was ice on the borders of the rivers and brooks, and on that day, people wore overcoats and mittens. All the growing crops in Ludlow, and, in fact, all over New England, were cut down by the frost, and nothing was raised but a scanty crop of winter rye, and a very little winter wheat of very poor quality.

There were some peculiar circumstances connected with this season. In all New England, only one field of corn ripened. This was raised by Thomas Bellows, of Walpole,

N. H. He sold his crop at the same price as in years of plenty, and would sell only one bushel to one man, for the use of his family, or for seed.

In Ludlow, the potato crop was a failure, the tubers not exceeding small walnuts in size. There was one exception. On the farm of Thomas Bixby, two pieces were planted to potatoes. One, like the other fields, was ruined by the cold, while the other, which lay just north of where the Bixby house now stands, yielded an abundant crop.

It was a year of poverty for many people, especially in this town, as the settlers had only got well started to clearing their farms, and had to live on domestic meat, fish, and wild game. Trout and horned pout were especially plenty. Jan. 1, 1897, there were eleven people living in town who experienced the hardships of "the cold year." The following year was a year of joy for all, the harvest being a rich one, bringing prosperity and happiness.

## SEVERE STORMS

It is a general occurrence in times of disastrous storms, to hear old people say: "This is the hardest storm I ever saw." The following are some of the most severe storms that have occurred in Ludlow since the commencement of the nineteenth century.

In September, 1828, a very hard shower came in the night. It rained only a few hours, but all the streams in town were swollen beyond all former records, from the time of the settlement of the town, up to that time. Much damage was done throughout the town, and all the bridges on Black River were swept away, with the exception of what was called the Haven bridge, which spanned the river near the Willard Johnson place. Main street was considerably damaged, a part of Black River flowing through the street. The freshet was supposed to be the result of a cloud-burst on the mountain.

June 11, 1842, snow fell to the depth of six inches, the mercury recorded a low temperature, and icicles formed on the eaves of buildings, in some instances to the length



of eighteen inches. Oct. 19, 1843, snow fell to the depth of one foot, and remained all winter. Many of the potatoes and other vegetables were not harvested until the following spring, when the potatoes were dug, and the planting for the next season commenced. During the winter, many farmers removed the snow, and dug a few hills of potatoes for immediate use. The ground did not freeze during the winter.

The freshet of 1850 did much damage in town. A description of the storm will be found in connection with the history of the railroad. In the early part of March, 1862, a remarkable storm occurred. Snow fell to the depth of fifteen inches, and the weather then moderated several degrees, and the storm closed up with about six inches of hail, and was followed by the mercury suddenly dropping to thirty degrees below zero. This formed a crust on the snow so thick and hard that heavily loaded teams could be driven across-lots anywhere in all parts of the state. The fall of snow, during the first part of the winter, had been very heavy, and all the fences and streams were hidden. The crust was so hard that the largest trees could be felled on it without cracking it. For more than a month, horse-trotting and skating were the general amusements. There has never been such a time for doing business on a snow crust, since the settlement of Vermont.

Sunday, Oct. 3, 1869, it commenced to rain at a rapid rate about nine o'clock in the morning, and continued all day and the following night. Monday morning, the rain fell in torrents. It seemed as though the ocean had taken the place of the firmament. At noon, Oct. 4, the rain abated just in season to save Ludlow village from being swept away. The water was from two to three feet deep in Main street, and boats were used in the village. But few bridges were left standing in town, and the Cram house, which stood below the high, railroad bridge, on the site of the tenement house now owned by E. L. Fullam, was washed away. Billy Bacon, son of Wm. Bacon who was once the editor of a paper published in town, was in the house when it started down the stream. When the house collapsed, he got out onto a part of the roof through the chimney-

hole, and being an expert swimmer, kept himself up until he was rescued near the bridge by the Lamere blacksmith shop.

The highways were badly damaged, and, in many places, entirely ruined, and it cost the town several thousand dollars to repair them. The process of repairing them commenced at once, but on the twentieth and twenty-first days of the same month, heavy rains raised the water to within a few inches of the previous flood, and nearly all the work done toward repairs was washed away. The entire street under the high railroad bridge was swept away, to the depth of from six to ten feet. This storm was general all over New England.

May 3, 1870, snow fell to the depth of three feet, and lasted several days. Many cords of wood and logs were drawn on sleds, and considerable maple sugar was made, as the nights were cold enough to freeze hard.

Mar. 12, 1888, the greatest amount of snow fell, ever known in one storm since the settlement of the town. Four feet of very heavy snow fell, followed by a gale which piled the snow into enormous drifts. The storm was an extensive one, but was heaviest about New York City and east-ward along the Atlantic coast. All the wires were down, and traffic was suspended for about forty-eight hours. In the cities, many men were obliged to seek shelter near their places of business, as it was next to an impossibility to travel the streets any distance, and there was great suffering among the poor. In New York City, the price of coal rose to a dollar a hod, and milk to fifty cents a quart. In this vicinity, the previous snow-fall had been heavy, with no thaws to settle it, and the storm completely buried fences, and all the smaller land-marks, so that, in many instances, the tracing of the buried highway had to be left to the instinct of the teams employed, rather than to the knowledge of the driver.

Another exceptional storm visited the town May 21, 1892, when two feet of snow fell, and lasted several days. The storm occurred on Thursday, and on Sunday following, people went to church in sleighs. Many gardens and fields of corn had been planted, but received only a little



damage. Cattle suffered very much, and many died. The price of hay advanced to twenty-two and twenty-five dollars per ton, and was very scarce. Corn meal rose from a dollar up to a dollar and a half per hundred, and was hard to get at that.

The rainfall during the summer of 1897 was the greatest ever known here. During the months of May, June, and July, it rained nearly two-thirds of the time, and crops were nearly drowned out. Aug. 1, scarcely one eighth of the grass crop had been secured. The potato crop was a failure, and but little except hay, was raised.

Nov. 3, 1927, the worst flood ever known here came. The weather was mild, and a heavy rain fell for thirty-six hours. Ludlow lost four bridges, and Jewell Brook flowed down Main street. Black river also overflowed into Main street near the Dr. Bryant house. Seven houses were swept away on Main street, Cavendish.

The damage to roads, bridges, and personal property, exceeded \$150,000, and for the state for all kinds of property, exceeded fifty million dollars. Hundreds of cattle were drowned.

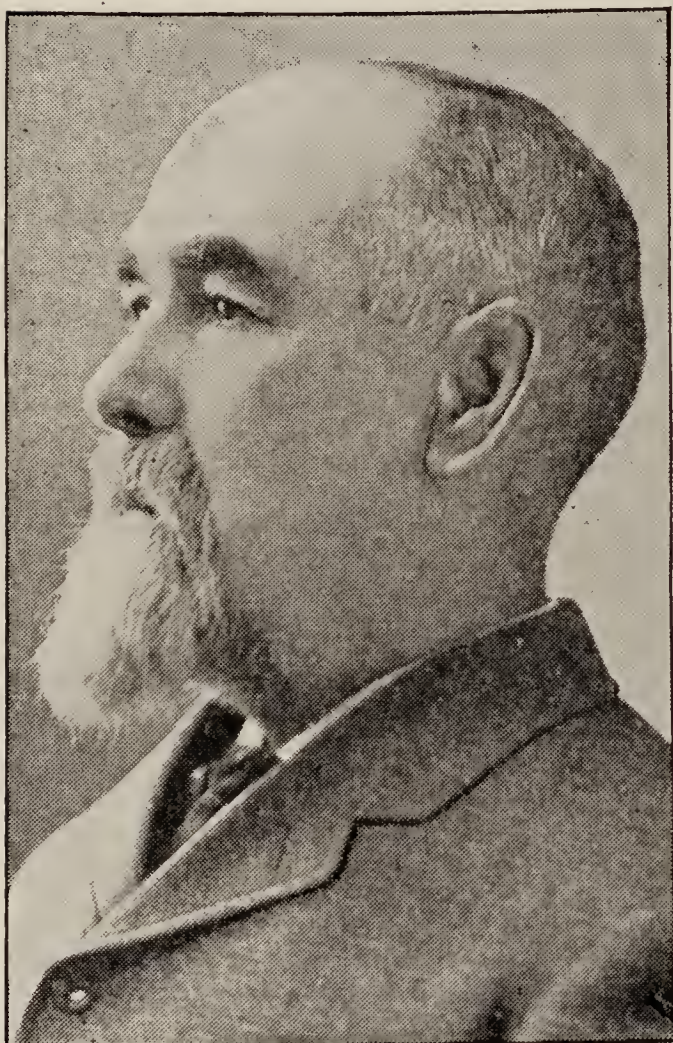
## WOOLEN MILLS

The first woolen mill built in Ludlow, was erected in 1832 by Pliny Parker and Benjamin Billings. It stood on the site later occupied by Arthur G. Spaulding's grist-mill, on the corner of Main and Andover streets. The mill burned on Nov. 18, 1835. The firm immediately solicited funds, and formed a stock company, and the mill was rebuilt in 1836. The following year was a year of financial depression all over the country, and in 1838 the firm failed, and the mill stood idle for several years. About 1845, Emery Burpee purchased the property, and converted it into a grist-mill. Since 1850, the mill has been owned in succession by John Osborne, Spaulding & Patch, E. J. Whitcomb & S. I. Atherton, Theophilus Johnson, Marcus A. Spaulding & Son, and Arthur G. Spaulding.

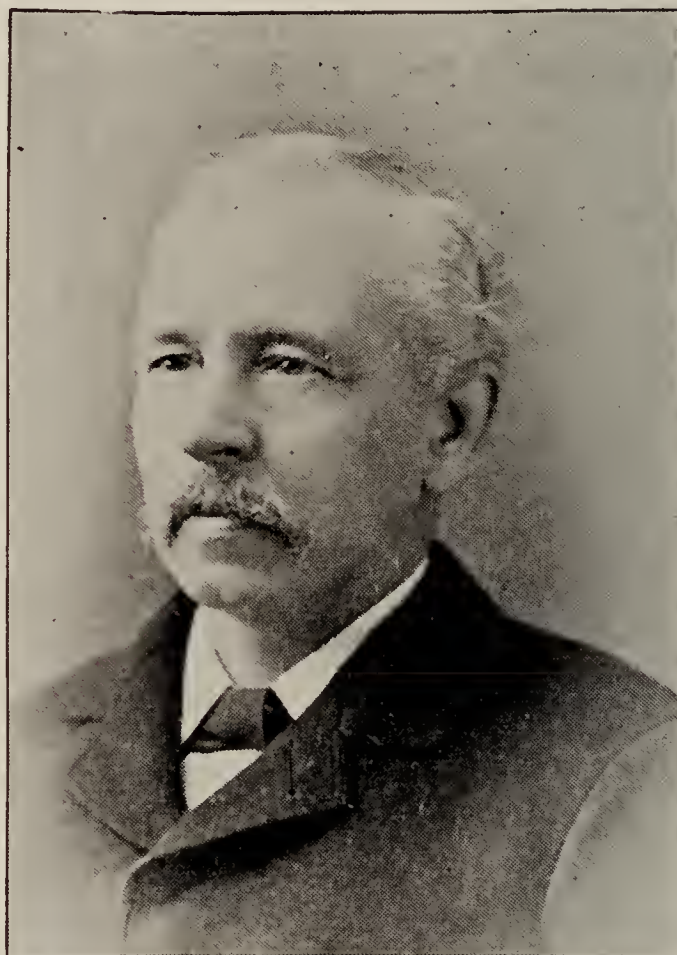
The next mill erected was on the site of the present



Ludlow Woolen Mills. In 1834, Stephen Cummings built and started a mill here, called The Green Mountain Woolen Manufacturing Company. At that time, they worked but two looms and one spinning jack. Apr. 6, 1836, Silas H.



George Levey

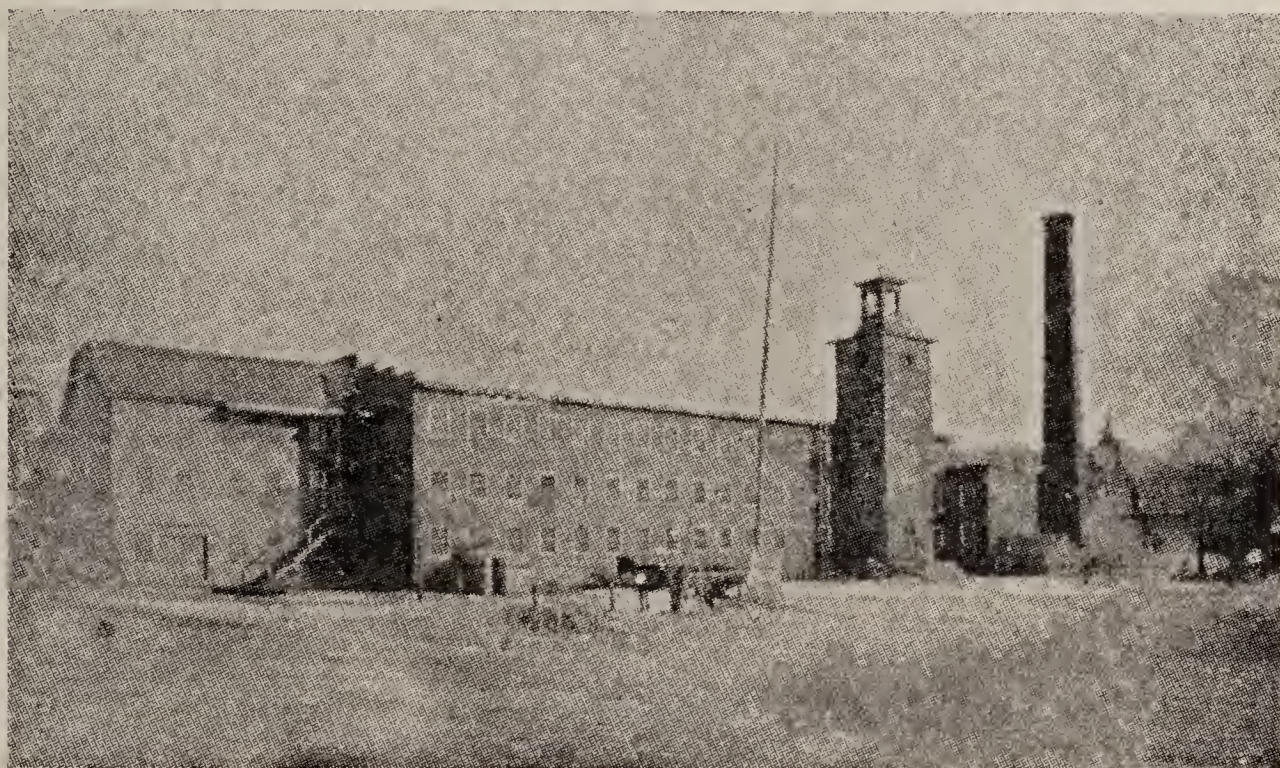


James Gill

Hodges purchased the mill, and July 4, 1837, sold a half interest to his brother, Henry Hodges. They failed the same year, and Stephen Cummings and Addison Streeter bought the plant. They deeded to George S. Coffin, Oct. 16, 1843, and he, again, deeded to Sheppard Adams, Apr. 12, 1845. About two years later, Mr. Adams surrendered the property to the National Black River Bank at Proctorsville. Feb. 11, 1851, the bank sold to Albert Day, who ran the mill but a few months, when it again went back to the bank, which deeded it to George S. Coffin, July 8, 1851. Mr. Coffin, who came from Winchendon, Mass., was a



wealthy man, but through bad management with the mill, he failed in 1853, and the property was consigned to Slade, Pratt, and Reed, merchants of New York. This firm sold to John Ward & Moses B. Buffam. About 1864, they sold to Geo. W. and Wm. S. Harding. Joseph Pelton and Geo. S. Redfield served as superintendents while the mill was owned by the Hardings.



Ludlow Woolen Mills — 1865

The first mill was built of brick, forty-five by seventy-five feet, and five stories high. It burned in January, 1865. Foster Fletcher, father of the late Hazen Fletcher, was in the third story at the time of the fire, and the stairways being on fire, he jumped from a window, and was so badly injured by striking on the frozen ground, that he lived but a few hours. The mill was rebuilt the following summer, by Geo. W. Harding & Co. The chimney was built in 1866, and is one hundred and one feet high. Before the stagings were taken down after its completion, Mrs. Mary Gardner went to the top, and had her photograph taken there. She had been a cook at sea for many years, was afraid of nothing, and had said, while the chimney was being built, that she would go to the top. A Frenchman, Samuel Carey, who was employed about the works, offered Mrs.



Gardner three dollars, if she would go to the top of the chimney, but refused to pay it after the feat was performed.

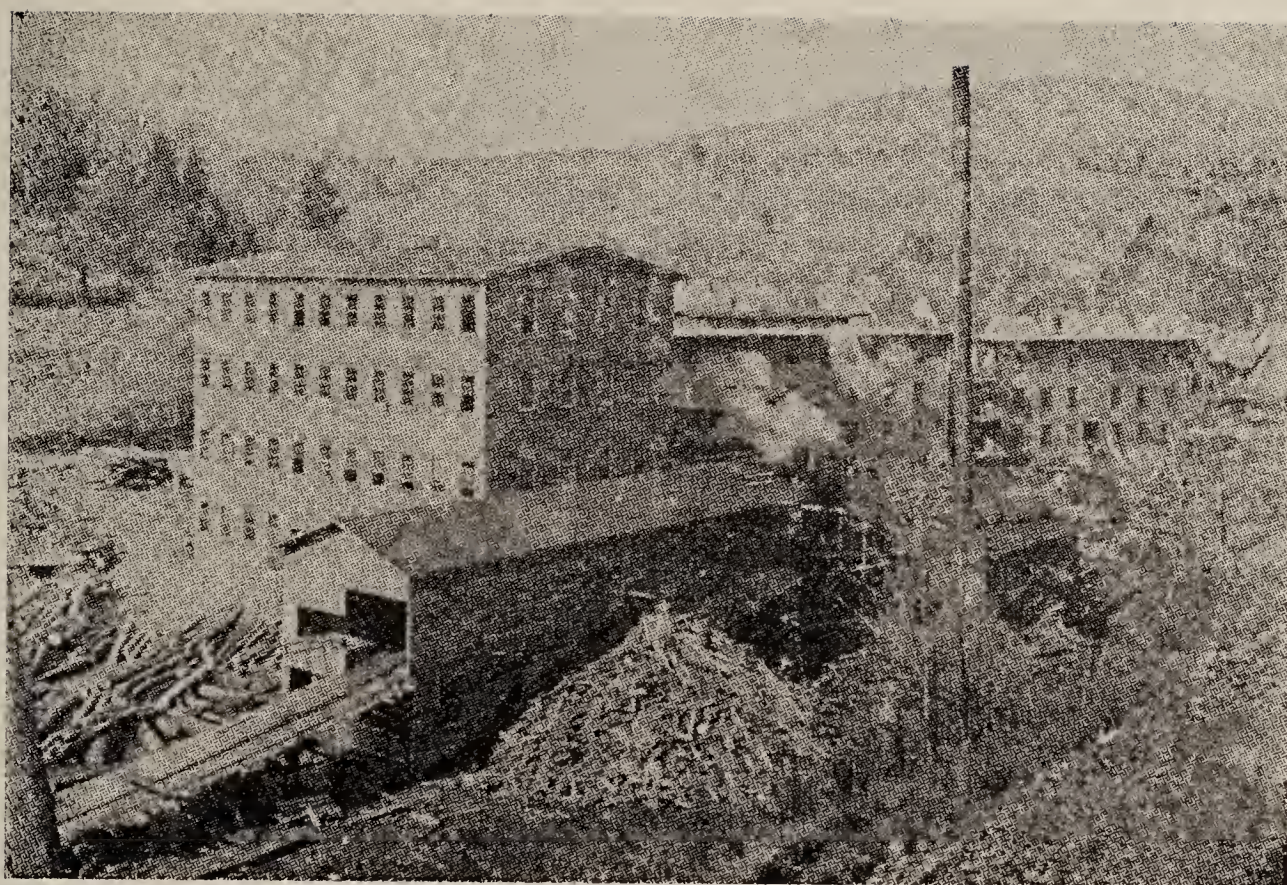
Apr. 15, 1876, Geo. W. Harding sold his half interest to Jas. S. Gill, and July 30, 1879, Mr. Gill purchased the balance of the property. Later, he sold a third interest to Fred O. Knights, who commenced with Mr. Gill as office boy. Mr. Knights ran the mill alone from Jan. 1, 1897 to Jan. 1, 1900, under a lease. On the latter date, Geo. H. Levey and James S. Gill, 2d, assumed control. The James S. Gill estate came into the hands of Rachel Gill and E. H. Harding, trustee, Mar. 18, 1902. At the decease of Rachel Gill, and when James S. Gill, 2d was over twenty-five years of age, in accordance with the will of James S. Gill, Sr., Frank A. Walker, trustee, deeded to James S. Gill, 2d, June 24, 1912, who deeded to the Verd Mont Mills company, May 1, 1914. Since that time, both mills have been operated by Frank W. Agan.

In 1844, William Gibson built a wood-working shop in Grahamsville, and did business there till 1849, when he sold out to Asahel Miller. Mr. Miller then formed a partnership with his son-in-law, William Graham, built on an addition of twenty feet to Mr. Gibson's works, and commenced manufacturing shoddy cloth. They continued business till 1855, when they failed. Joshua Ward ran the mill a short time, and Mr. Graham again bought the property, and continued the business until 1860, and was succeeded by John Bentley until 1867, when the mill was burned. Years ago, the little village was called "Slab City." When Messrs. Miller and Graham commenced business, the more tasteful name of "Cottage Mills" was adopted, and in 1857, when John Graham moved there, the place took its present name.

In 1894, Geo. H. Levey and others, formed a stock company, and built the Black River Woolen Mills where the cab-shop formerly stood, at a cost of \$45,000. It was a thoroughly equipped mill, and gave employment to a hundred hands.

The Black River Woolen Co. was sold to the American Woolen Co. April 27, 1923. In 1929, they failed, and since then the mill has been idle.





L. G. Fullam & Sons Chair Shop

## CHAIR MANUFACTURING

In 1830, Peter Read, Jr., son of Rev. Peter Read, built the two-story building in Grahamsville, that stands south of the house where Josiah Wilder once lived, and west of the road. He manufactured chairs quite extensively for those days. The work was all done by hand, and the chairs were sold in Ludlow and the surrounding towns. In 1842, Horace Adams built the building once owned by William Russell, and manufactured chairs there to some extent. They were of the old style, with high back and ash splint seats. This building was burned in 1929. In the early days of the town, nearly every cabinet-maker in town made a few chairs.

In 1889, Leighton G. Fullam and his son, Herman, commenced the manufacture of chairs in the old black-smith shop known as the S. S. Clark shop, on Commonwealth Avenue. At first the management of the business was on a small scale, then they employed a man, and their chairs were sold about home. In 1892, they commenced manu-



facturing chairs at their saw-mill, and the same year, built a large, three-story building where the chairs were finished. At this time they began to ship chairs to city markets. In 1894, the business had grown so much as to necessitate the erection of another building about the size of the first one. At this time the firm employed about thirty men, manufactured reed and rattan chairs of ninety different styles, and turned off from a hundred and fifty to two hundred chairs per day, which were shipped to all parts of the United States. The firm name was L. G. Fullam & Sons, but in 1903, the company was changed to a stock company, and the name of the firm became Fullam, Sons & Co. The stock invested was \$50,000. The main shop was built in the winter of 1903-04. They went out of business in 1909.

## VILLAGE CEMETERY

The first person buried in the village cemetery, was Stephen, son of Jesse Fletcher, who died Feb. 18, 1790. The second was Tabitha Preston, who died May 22, 1795. Probably there may have been others buried here between the above dates, but if so, no markers were erected to point out the place.

The first lot set off for a burying ground by the early settlers, was the one back of the site of the old Congregational church, but the land was not deeded to the town until about four years after the town was organized. Hezekiah Haven deeded one acre to the town for a cemetery, June 18, 1796, the consideration being two pounds and eight shillings of lawful currency, or about eleven dollars and sixty cents of United States money.

Feb. 29, 1856, Asahel Miller deeded a lot to the town for the first addition to the original burying-ground. The next addition was purchased of Ira W. Gale, Nov. 30, 1872, for the sum of two hundred and twenty-five dollars. Still another addition was bought of the same person, May 7, 1873, for the consideration of two hundred dollars. Aug. 29, 1873, a small piece of land was bought of F. C. Robbins.



This piece lies back of the old house known as "The Beehive." The sum paid for this piece was sixty dollars. It was once used as a garden. Nov. 14, 1881, another lot was bought of Ira Gale, being a little more than one acre, for which the town paid two hundred and eighty-nine dollars. May 21, 1891, still another addition was bought of Mr. Gale, for which he received four hundred and ninety dollars. This purchase takes in nearly all the land to the foot of Checkerberry Hill. In 1903, Mrs. J. S. Gill gave to the town, a strip of land on the east side for an addition to the cemetery, which was a very acceptable gift.

Of late years, this cemetery has become a very central one, and at the present time (April, 1931) there are nearly as many graves in the cemetery, as the whole population of the town. Doubtless there are some that cannot now be traced. Two hundred and fifty-six graves have no markers, and nineteen are marked with plain stone slabs without inscriptions. There are one hundred and nineteen monuments, some of them very fine ones. The first one set in the cemetery, was erected to the memory of Moses Haven in 1832. For many years, none of the Catholic dead were buried here, as that denomination had a consecrated burying ground at Claremont, N. H. Now, both Catholics and Protestants use this cemetery.

Nearly all of the first settlers of the town were buried in this old lot. In November, 1895, water from the village supply was added to the cemetery, and at the same time, a fountain costing \$512.78 was erected. This improvement was accomplished by the efforts of D. R. Sargent, who was first selectman at the time the much needed improvement was made.

### **SOUTH HILL CEMETERY**

In the cemetery on South Hill, there are visible a hundred and five graves, of which eighty-four have suitable markers, while the remainder are unmarked. There is only one monument in the yard, and that was erected to the memory of Jacob Hemenway, who died Dec. 8, 1836. Mr. Hemenway lived on Bear Hill, on the farm once owned by

William English. He came to his death by falling from the high beams of his barn, and breaking his neck.

The first persons to be buried in this little cemetery, according to the record of the marked graves, were John Tilden and his wife, who died of spinal meningitis (at that time called "spotted fever"). Mr. Tilden died March 5, 1813, and Dorcas, his wife, died March 6, 1813. She was about the house on the day of her husband's death, but died the next morning, and both lie in one grave. At the time of their death, the family were living in the second house south from the present school-house, later owned by Horace Wadleigh. There were seven children, the youngest being a pair of twins about six months old. The eldest child, a girl about fifteen years of age, wished to keep the home for the little ones, but the privilege was denied her, and the family was broken up and scattered. The twins were received into good permanent homes in town. Mary was received into the household of Abel Haild, and remained in the family till her death. Further reference to her will be found in the history of the schools. Nancy was given a home by Dea. Jesse Miller. She married Austin Dunbar, and died in 1890, the last of her father's family.

## ACCIDENTS

We give a short list of a few of the most remarkable fatal accidents that have occurred in Ludlow.

Moses, son of Moses Mayo, was killed June 21, 1825. He had been with his father's horse to help Asa White plow out some corn and potatoes. The field included the land where the Hathorn harness-shop, and the Okemo Tavern now stand, and what is now Main street from Depot street to Jewell Brook. Mr. White lived in a small house that stood where the first hay-scales were later located. After the plowing was finished, Mr. White took the traces, which were small chains, and made some stirrups, so that the boy could ride home on horse-back. After putting the boy on the horse's back, he gave him a jug of yeast to carry to his mother, it being customary



at that time, for housewives to obtain fresh yeast of each other. On his way home, which was where Harold Ford now lives, the horse became frightened at a hog in the roadside at the place where Owen Donahue's family now lives, and, turning, ran back down the hill. The boy was thrown off, one foot caught in the stirrup, and he was dragged by the running horse till he reached the place where E. C. Ford's house stands, when his head struck a stump, killing him instantly. His funeral was the first funeral in Ludlow, south of the river.

March 24, 1847, Hannah, a little daughter of Pat Lanan, about four and a half years of age, was drowned in the pen-stock that carried the water to the old grist-mill. It was a fulling-mill at that time. The child was playing with other children on the bulk-head which was above where the high, rail-road bridge now is, and fell into the flume back of the iron grating that stopped the drift-wood, and was drawn into the pen-stock. Joel Warner recovered the lifeless body at the mill.

Elnathan, son of Benjamin Warren, was accidentally killed by his brother, Horace, who struck the point of a scythe into his brain while mowing fodder corn. The accident occurred in 1846. The father of the boys lived on East Hill, on the farm known as the Major Spaulding farm. On the day when the accident occurred, they had been given a stint to cut so much corn, and then they could go to a barn-raising that one of their neighbors, Surrey Burpee, was to have. Thinking that corn-cutters were too slow implements for the work, the older boy took the scythe which did the deadly work.

An incident is related of this Mr. Burpee, which is worthy of mention. While doing his haying one summer, some of his hay got wet several times. After a while, he got it dried sufficiently to go into the barn, when a thunder shower came up and again wet the hay. While the shower was in progress, Br. Burpee stood in the door of his barn, uttering terrible oaths, and wishing that the lightning would strike the barn. He got his wish.

Allie and Freddie, sons of Aleck and Bridget Snow, aged respectively six and nine years, were drowned Dec.

19, 1881. They were playing on the ice on the factory pond near Pond street, and one of them broke through. The other went to his rescue, and he, too, went under the ice. They were bright little fellows, and the entire community sympathized with the bereaved parents.

Albert M. Marvin was killed a little above the Electric light plant on the North Hill road, Nov. 23, 1892. He was at that time occupying the farm on North Hill, known as the L. G. Fullam farm, and was drawing stove-wood to the village. His team started to run on the pitch above where the watering trough stood, and his body was found beside the road a short distance below. It was not known whether he was thrown from the load, or jumped off, hoping to be able to stop the team, as he did not recover consciousness.

Nov. 5, 1851, Mary and Charles, children of Cyrus and Eliza Baker, aged respectively seven and four years, were killed while at play near an ox-cart body that was turned up on the edge. It fell upon them, killing Mary instantly, and injuring Charles so that he lived but three days. Mr. Baker, at that time, lived where Mrs. Ackley now lives, at the Lawrence mill near Grahamsville.

Richard Dunbar, son of Frederick Dunbar, was drowned at the upper end of the factory pond, Sept. 1, 1846. He was a good swimmer, but sacrificed his life to fulfill his pledge of safety to a smaller boy who had become frightened. We give great honor to the hero who yields up his life on the field of battle, but the heroism of this sacrifice is no less worthy of a tribute of praise. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Mrs. Mary Wing was killed on May 26, 1889. At the time of her death, Mrs. Wing lived in the tenement above D. C. Barney's marble-shop, which was reached by outside stairs on the south side of the building. While descending these stairs, she lost her balance, fell, and was instantly killed.

July 7, 1900, Nathan Stowe, the ten year old son of M. J. Stowe, was killed on Main street in front of the Bank. He was riding a bicycle, and accidentally colliding with a team driven by Henry J. West, was thrown from his bicycle, run over, and almost instantly killed.



## MURDERS

Matthew Leonard was murdered in Ludlow, Sept. 3, 1848. He came to town from Concord, N. H., three weeks previous to the date of his death, and entered the employ of the company then building the railroad through this town. He was given the charge of a gang of workmen near Smithville, and lived in a shanty that stood on the west side of the road, between the covered bridge and the railroad at Smithville. At this time, there were large gangs of Irish workmen, stationed along the line of the road, and the work was divided into sections. There was a large gang in Section Four in Cavendish, and another gang in each of the sections Eight and Nine in Ludlow. These men all came from Ireland, some from Connaught in western Ireland, who called themselves Connaught men, and some from Cork, on the southern coast, who were called Corkonians. These two classes had sectional differences in their own country, dating back, possibly, to the time when they were separate tribes under separate chieftains, and their jealous feeling was not laid aside here. When fired by American new rum, which was plenty for all classes in those days, this ancient feud broke out in furious affrays, which were annoying to people in the vicinity.

Mr. Leonard was a Connaught man, and was a very powerful man. People who knew him said that he was six feet and two inches tall, and as well built as any man that ever lived in Ludlow, but unfortunately, like many men of strong physical make-up, his appetites were equally strong, and the liquor so freely used in those times, often took away his discretion. On the day preceding his death, he attended an Irish funeral in Cavendish, and, as on all such occasions at that time, those attending were more or less under the influence of strong drink. Mr. Leonard had partaken freely of that demoralizing liquid that is the cause of ninety per cent of all the crimes perpetrated in this world, and on his way home, met a dozen or more of the Corkonians near Smithville, not far from the Cavendish line. Mr. Leonard saluted them with "How do you do, gentlemen?" and received from one of the others the

reply, "How do you know we **are** gentlemen?" Mr. Leonard replied that he supposed every American was a gentleman. For some reason, this aroused their anger, and they began to throw stones, and this was followed by a general knock-down, in which Mr. Leonard came off victorious. That night, a gang went to his shanty, entered it, struck Mrs. Leonard, injuring her somewhat, and killed Mr. Leonard. Their son, Benjamin, was about a year old at the time, and his mother, fearing that all would be murdered, put little Ben into the stove oven. It was found afterward that several bullets were fired through the stove-pipe. The following men were arrested for the murder: Thomas Kennedy, John McGrath, Peter McGrath, John Bolton, Bryan Kennedy, John Kennedy, Michael Dougan, Patrick Graham, Michael Hautuet, John Castelous, Michael Castelous, David Caine, Thomas Lynde, Thomas Tubraty, Thomas Mahoney, Thomas Hayes, John Case, Michael Cashen, and Michael O'Brien.

An inspection of the record of the evidence and action of the court, shows that no one was convicted of the crime. The testimony was difficult to take, as the Irish brogue was hard to understand.

Mr. Leonard was buried in the consecrated burying-ground of the Catholics, at Claremont, N. H. In March, 1849, seven months after the burial, Sewall Fullam, at that time State's Attorney, had the body taken up to have the bullets removed from the body as states' evidence. The remains were found in as good condition as when buried, and the blood in the body seemed fresh.

Aug. 6, 1871, three Italian organ-grinders came to town. One of them, Angelo Maggiolo, after playing in the streets of the village, put up for the night at the house of Antoine Bordeau, who lived at that time in the old "Bee-hive" near the cemetery. The following day, Angelo was missing, but no alarm was given, as it was thought he had left the place during the night. Eight or ten days later, Rev. N. F. Perry, while out walking north of the cemetery, discovered the body of the missing Italian, buried in leaves. Even then the body was badly decomposed, and that fact led to its discovery. One of the other Italians was arrested on suspicion, and kept in jail for several months, but as no convicting



evidence could be produced against him, he was set at liberty. Suspicion then fell upon Bordeau, but there was not sufficient evidence to warrant his arrest. A few years later, he died in Keene, N. H., and just before his death, he confessed to murdering Angelo Maggiolo on the morning of Aug. 7, 1871.

We find record of but these two murders in town, where trials were held, but a third is said to have occurred here. At the time when the railroad was being built, one of the employees, John Hart, became possessed of the idea that he must whip Ephraim Warren, a carpenter in Ludlow, and a peaceable citizen. Mr. Warren lived at the time in a house that stood where Henry E. Howard now lives on Andover street. He was an unusually strong man, with broad shoulders, arms like piston-rods, and fists like wooden mallets. One night, Hart called at Mr. Warren's house, accompanied by a gang of peace-breakers, and called for Mr. Warren, who replied from his bed, and asked what was wanted. "I came to whip you," says Hart. "All right" says Mr. Warren, "I will be out as soon as I can put on my pants." Hart stationed himself at the door, ready to deal the first blow, but Mr. Warren, knowing his errand, was on his guard, and took that advantage himself, as soon as the door was opened, and dealt Hart so powerful a blow that it killed him instantly. His friends buried the body in the filling at the west end of the high railroad bridge. Mr. Warren, fearing the consequences of his act, of course said nothing, but waited for the results. Hart, being a new-comer in town, was not missed, and his companions, not caring to reveal their own share in the matter, did not make it public. The information in regard to the incident has been gleaned from time to time from men who were living in town at that time, or were employed in building the railroad.

## CLIMATE

Ludlow has many natural features of her own. The climate, in the short summers that prevail here, is delightful, and the waters of the natural springs found on every hillside, are as pure, cool, and bracing, as can be found in any

part of the world. The winters are a drawback to the inhabitants of the town, especially to the farmers, as cattle often have to be fed from the first of September till June, and what is gained in summer has to be used up in winter. In most of the winters, the snow falls to a great depth, ranging from six to twelve feet. The mountain to the west of the town, stands like a huge snow fence, the snow on the west side of it, being blown over the pinnacle to the east side, where it remains till late in the spring, delaying the advance of nature from two to three weeks later than the starting of vegetation in the Connecticut valley. The winters are cold and blustering, and the snow is often piled into huge drifts over the highways, delaying travel from two to four days. There have been instances in town, where deaths occurred three or four miles out of the village, and the remains had to be drawn to the village cemetery on a hand-sled. There is but little sunshine in the winter months, and snow squalls are as numerous as mosquitoes in Virginia. People wait patiently but anxiously for the return of spring, which comes at a late date, and vegetation starts with a bound. Potatoes, corn, and small grains usually ripen before the early frosts in September. The annual visit of the birds is of about five months duration.

Striking a balance between the good and bad freaks of the weather as compared with those of other places, many of the old inhabitants think Ludlow a good place in which to be born, live, and die.

### REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS

The following is a list of the Revolutionary soldiers who have lived in Ludlow, as nearly as can be ascertained: Josiah Fletcher, Ephraim Dutton, Moses Page (died Aug. 1, 1838, aged 85 yrs.), Jonathan Whitcomb (died June 6, 1842,) Lewis Caldwell, Emery Burpee, Cyrus Keyes, Levi Adams, Benjamin Whitmore, Hezekiah Haven, Ira Sweat, Thomas Weatherbee (died Oct. 28, 1848, aged 92 yrs.), Ephraim Heald (died Nov. 6, 1834, aged 92



yrs.), John Spafford (died Jan. 27, 1840, aged 83 yrs.), David Bradford, and Frank Sinclair. Mr. Bradford was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and while engaged, strayed from his comrades, and was surrounded by a number of the enemy. He was a large, powerful man, and he used the butt of his flint-lock gun over the heads of the British soldiers with such good effect, that he escaped unharmed. Frank Sinclair was born in Scotland, and, at an early age, joined the British army. After crossing the ocean, he concluded that he preferred his American cousins, so he deserted from the British, and joined the American army. After the war closed, he settled in Ludlow, up the stream west of the Charles Esty place.

### **SOLDIERS OF 1812**

The following soldiers in the Second War for Independence, have resided in Ludlow: Ira Hall, Daniel Keyes, Daniel Hemenway, Curtis Adams, Abel Adams, Daniel Sawyer, Sr., and Orris Brooks. Michael Gilligan served in the Mexican war, and Benjamin Barrett enlisted into the U. S. service for the same war, from Ludlow.

### **LUDLOW IN THE WAR FOR THE UNION**

When, in 1861, President Lincoln made his first call for troops to maintain the Union, and put down the treason that had been brewing at the south for years, the patriotic sons of Ludlow promptly responded, and were ever ready to push to the front to defend the nation, and give equal rights and freedom to all men, black or white, throughout the whole length and breadth of the land. At a town meeting held June 30, 1861, the sum of two thousand dollars was appropriated to purchase outfits for the volunteers, and furnish each one with ten dollars in cash. Also to provide for their families during their absence, a bounty of one hundred dollars was offered in the fall of 1862, for nine months men, and when the call for three hundred thousand men was made in 1863, a town meeting

was held Dec. 19, and the selectmen were authorized to offer a bounty of five hundred dollars, to fill the quota of the town. In the following May, still another town meeting was held, and the selectmen were instructed to fill the quota demanded to avoid a draft, and pay such a bounty to volunteers as they saw fit. The following is the list of soldiers enrolled from Ludlow, as nearly as can be ascertained: Volunteers for three years credit previous to call for 300,000 volunteers of Oct. 17, 1863:

Adams, Daniel O.  
Adams, John W.  
Adams, Wayland  
Balch, Edward E.  
Baldwin, James F.  
Barrett, John  
Barrett, William J.  
Barton, Dorman  
Barton, Rufus F.  
Bingham, Leonard P.  
Bishop, Chas. Wayland  
Bixby, Hiram P.  
Buckley, John M.  
Burbank, Geo. B.  
Chapin, Wm. A., Jr.  
Clark, Jasper N.  
Cleveland, Henry C.  
Clement, Wm. A.  
Colby, Henry W.  
Cooledge, Daniel F.  
Cooledge, John T.  
Cummings, Thomas R.  
Davis, Leander D.  
Dodge, Lorenzo A.  
Dow, Chas. W.  
Dunbar, Ervin M.  
Dunbar, Jesse B.  
Dutton, Henry F.  
Eaton, Addison F.  
Ellison, Sewall  
Finnegan, Patrick

Fullam, Benoni B.  
Fullam, Volney S.  
Fuller, Freeman H.  
Gassett, Albert  
Gassett, Oscar  
Gilligan, Michael  
Gorham, James T.  
Gould, Elbert M.  
Gould, Enos M.  
Greeley, Hiram  
Green, Josiah M.  
Grover, Martin E.  
Hall, Artemas W.  
Hastings, Joseph L.  
Haven, Lowell W.  
Haven, Prescott R.  
Hemenway, Daniel D.  
Hemenway, Henry G.  
Heselton, Abner C.  
Heselton, Moses P.  
Howe, Oramel G.  
Keating, Daniel  
Kelly, Francis  
Kennedy, Patrick C.  
Lawrence, Henry E.  
Little, Arthur  
Mandigo, Henry H.  
May, Albert A.  
Moore, Alonzo E.  
Moore, Armin E.  
Moore, Charles W.  
Parker, Sylvester H.  
Parkhurst, Simeon L.



Perham, Salmon E.  
Pier, Orris  
Pollard, Henry L.  
Pollard, John B.  
Pratt, Augustus H.  
Reed, Charles A.  
Reed, Joseph U.  
Reed, Sullivan E.  
Riggs, Henry H.  
Roberts, Augustus L.  
Rock, Levi  
Ross, Duane O.  
Ross, Ulric T.

Sargent, Frank D.  
Sargent, Henry H.  
Sawyer, Alphonso  
Sawyer, Geo. M.  
Simonds, Erastus M.  
Snell, Hyland  
Stickney, Fred B.  
Strong, Sylvester C.  
Wadleigh, Isaac N.  
Wakefield, Freeman  
Whitcomb, Asahel S.  
Whitney, R. Elmore  
Wyman, Chas. H.

Credits under call of Oct. 17, 1863, for 300,000 volunteers, and subsequent for volunteers for three years:

Bingham, Marlow  
Bingham, Leonard P.  
Chapman, Wm. H. H.  
Ingalls, Lucius  
Langdon, Samuel  
Lockwood, Horatio S.

Pollard, James  
Snow, Charles  
Spafford, Geo. F.  
Wakefield, Freeman  
Wheeler, Edwin H.

#### Volunteers for one year:

Archer, Albertus J.  
Archer, Albert N.  
Barlow, Frederick H.  
Barnard, Frederick G.  
Bell, Samuel  
Dailey, Timothy, Jr.  
Fletcher, Hazen T.  
Frazier, James  
Fullam, Benoni B.  
Green, Edward H.  
Hastings, James M., Jr.  
Hayes, John  
Horwell, Chas. H.  
Kennedy, Patrick C.  
May, Edgar

McMorton, Peter  
Moore, Francis A.  
Reed, Jonathan H.  
Reed, Joseph U.  
Riley, Thomas  
Root, Asahel J.  
Sartwell, Lyman R.  
Smith, Byron  
Smith, Milo  
Snell, John  
Snow, Alex  
Snow, Moses  
Taylor, Samuel R.  
Withington, John  
Woodis, John P.

Volunteers for nine months:

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Barnard, Frederick G.   | Pettigrew, Benjamin F. |
| Bixby, Marquis J.       | Ross, Surry M.         |
| Clark, Martin V. B.     | Sargent, Darwin R.     |
| Fletcher, Hazen         | Smith, Milo            |
| Horwell, Charles        | Snell, John            |
| Hastings, James M., Jr. | Sullivan, Michael      |
| Johnson, Daniel         | Warren, Leonard R.     |
| Lamb, Zenal C.          | Whitney, Lysander      |
| Osborne, Orlando S.     | Wiley, John E.         |

Volunteers re-enlisted:

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Adams, Daniel O.   | Grover, Martin E. |
| Archer, Norman     | Haven, Lowell P.  |
| Fuller, Freeman H. | May, Albert A.    |
| Gould, Enos M.     |                   |

Volunteers for three months:

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Barber, Joseph      | Gould, Enos M.     |
| Bingham, Leonard P. | Lawrence, Henry E. |
| Bishop, Chas. W.    | Levey, George      |
| Bixby, Hiram P.     | Pier, Orris        |
| Buckley, John M.    | Pollard, John B.   |
| Buckley, Wm. H. H.  | Sargent, Frank D.  |
| Cleveland, Henry C. |                    |

Furnished under draft and paid commutation:

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bailey, Martin  | Merritt, Wm. H. |
| Bixby, Chas. C. | Sears, Wm. L.   |
| Coffin, Geo. H. |                 |

Procured substitute:

|                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Fullam, Leighton G. | Pettigrew, Elon G. |
| Hemenway, Chas. W.  | Royce, Addison R.  |
| Hemenway, R. N.     | Walker, George E.  |
| Kelsey, Wm. H.      | Walker, Wm. H.     |
| Patrick, William A. | Whitney, Henry A.  |

Entered service:

|                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Chapman, Albert | Porter, James H. |
| Chapman, Alvin  | Wyman, Martin    |

Veteran reserve corps:

Sargent, Francis D.

Miscellaneous not credited by name: nine men.



The boys who left their comfortable homes, full of life and courage, in the years of 1861 and 1862, in defense of their country's flag, little knew to what suffering and hardship they would be exposed. Three years shattered and thinned their ranks almost beyond recognition. Many were buried on the southern battle-fields by their comrades, others died the more lingering death by starvation, among the awful horrors of the southern prisons, while some escaped with barely the thread of life unbroken. Of those who were spared to return home, nearly all came back wounded, and many maimed for life. Now and then a man is found who served his country faithfully for three years, and passed through the terrible baptism of fire unscathed, but such cases were very rare. Many of the Ludlow boys were members of the Vermont Brigade, so famous in history for the indomitable courage of its men.

The war was expensive to Ludlow in money, as well as in the loss of her sons. The expense to the town was \$26,802.30, and, added to this, the money and supplies furnished by the churches and private citizens, would doubtless swell the amount to more than \$50,000.

A few of the old soldiers, who resided in Ludlow after the war, seem deserving of special mention. Hiram P. Bixby was born in Ludlow, Oct. 28, 1834, and enlisted in Company I, Second Vermont Volunteers, Oct. 7, 1861. He was wounded May 3, 1863, at Fredericksburg, Va., a minie ball passing through his right arm about midway between the wrist and elbow, and then entirely through his body, through the right lung. The ball struck him as he was turning his ramrod. Recovery from such a wound seems little less than a miracle. He died July 6, 1898.

Col. R. E. Hathorn was born in Londonderry, Vt., Nov. 3, 1843, enlisted in Company G, Eleventh Vt. Volunteers, Aug. 11, 1862, and was mustered out of the service June 24, 1865. He was engaged in the battles of Spottsylvania, Va., May 15 to 18, 1864, Opequan, Va., Sept. 19, 1864, Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864, Petersburg, Mar. 25 to 27, 1865, and Petersburg Apr. 2, 1865. He was never wounded nor excused from duty except for a very short time, and

was a faithful servant to his country. He became a resident of Ludlow July 31, 1865, and was engaged in the harness business. He died Jan. 10, 1931.

Frederick A. Fish was born in Townshend, Vt., Apr. 5, 1842, and was mustered into the U. S. service in June, 1861. He served his country nearly four years, and was engaged in twenty-three different battles, among them Bull Run, Spottsylvania, and Antietam. He is credited with being one of the bravest soldiers in the service, and was never wounded, excused from duty, or absent from roll-call. It seems almost incredible that a man could stand as a target through so many battles, with tons upon tons of lead and iron hurled over and around him, and escape without a scratch. Thousands upon thousands of his friends and comrades lost their lives by his side, while he was spared. He was a resident of Ludlow for more than thirty years.

Hyland Snell was born in Ludlow, Vt., June 11, 1836, enlisted into the U. S. service in Company I, Second Vermont Volunteers June 11, 1861, and was mustered out June 27, 1864. He was engaged in the following battles: Bull Run, July 20, 1861, Lee's Mills, Apr. 17, 1862, Williamsburg, May 5, 1862, Fair Oaks, May 31, and June 1, 1862, Golden's Farm, June 26, 1862, Savage Station, June 29, 1862, White Oak Swamp, June 30, 1862, Malvern Hill, July 2, 1862, Second Bull Run, July 30, 1862, South Mountain, Sept. 2, 1862, Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862, Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862, and Fredericksburg Heights, May 3, 1863. In the last battle he was wounded in the right leg, which was injured for life. He was never taken prisoner, though he said he "had the offer of it several times." His comrades ranked him among the country's most fearless defenders. He died Oct. 20, 1904, at the age of sixty-eight years.

Many others are worthy of mention, but it would require many volumes to do justice to all.

The private soldiers endured much hardship and suffering, aside from that inflicted by the enemy. They were often compelled to march thirty or forty miles in a day, sometimes ending the long, weary tramp through dusty



roads, or, still worse, southern clay mud, at double-quick. Whether it was under a blazing southern sun, or a ceaseless down-pour of rain, the task **must** be accomplished, and "Tramp, tramp, tramp" had far more meaning to the foot-sore and weary soldier, than to those who sung the words in the safety of their homes could conceive of.

Usually, they carried six day's rations in their haversacks, in addition to a heavy army blanket, a rubber blanket, half a sutler's tent, sixty rounds of cartridges, and a canteen of water, in all weighing about sixty pounds, besides a gun that weighed ten pounds. Even after one of these fatiguing marches, they must form at sunset for dress parade, and some must do picket duty, that the rest might sleep without fear of surprise by the enemy. After long marches, some would be so foot-sore and exhausted that they would lie down supperless on the wet ground, to forget their sufferings for a few short hours in sleep.

At first, a common soldier's pay was eleven dollars per month, board, and uniforms, but later, the pay was raised to thirteen dollars per month. He drew as daily rations, one pound of salt pork or beef, usually salt beef, one pound of hard-tack, a substitute for bread so hard that it often had to be pounded fine before it could be eaten, and one pound of coffee and one of sugar for six days. They drew one old-fashioned candle each day for a tent which usually accommodated four men, and twice a week, beans were cooked by the company cook and passed around. The diet became very monotonous and unappetizing after two or three years on the same bill of fare, and he was reckoned as fortunate whose friends remembered him occasionally with a box of more tempting fare. While in winter quarters, there was more comfort for the soldier, his tasks being few except drill parade two or three times a week.

### **O. O. HOWARD POST, NO. 33, G. A. R.**

This post was organized July 4, 1868, and was named for the distinguished Maj. Gen. Oliver O. Howard of Maine. The original number of members of the post, was ten, the following being the charter members: H. O. Pea-



body, Linus E. Sherman, R. E. Hathorn, J. H. Putnam, L. Shaffner, J. F. Farnham, John Barrett, Fred A. Fish, Alphonso Sawyer, and Geo. Snowden Redfield. The post was reorganized May 10, 1883, the first officers being



O. O. Howard Post, No. 33, G. A. R. 1868

R. E. Hathorn, P. C., James Pollard, S. V. C., H. A. Fletcher, J. V. C., W. D. Ball, adjutant, A. T. Moore, Q. M., George Spafford, surgeon, Elihu Snow, chaplain, Oscar Gassett, O. D., F. H. Fuller, O. G., D. C. Sheldon, sergeant major, H. G. Hemenway, Q. M. sergeant. No society has a more affectionate, brotherly feeling among its members, than was manifested by this order.

## SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

Only two men from Ludlow served in this war. Grant Colton, son of E. S. Colton, served nearly two years, and returned safe. Leon D. Cooledge, son of Dr. D. F. Cooledge, enlisted from Chicago, Ill. in Aug. 1899, in Co. M., 37th Regt. U. S. Vols. He died of typhoid fever in the Philippine Islands, July 31, 1900. His remains were brought to Ludlow for burial.



## THE WORLD WAR

The United States declared war on Germany April 6, 1917, but many Americans had already entered the service, impelled, doubtless, by interest in the European countries that were struggling against destruction. Ludlow's Roll of Honor contains the names of those who enlisted from this town, from 1914 to 1918:

Lowell Adams  
Joseph Alger  
Ernest Bachelder  
Frederick Ballard  
Jack Ballard  
Howard Beswick  
John Biagiotti  
Joseph Blanchard  
Archie Brown  
Louis Burnes  
Carleton Burney  
Allen Buswell  
Clayton Carlisle  
Alex Ciufu  
John Ciufu  
William Comstock  
Arthur Connors  
Frank Connors  
Clyde Cook  
Richard Crossley  
Clifford Derosier  
Lovering Devereaux  
Albert Ellis  
Leon Ellison  
John Files  
Jay Flanders  
Allen M. Fletcher, Jr.  
Richard Flynn  
Russell Ford  
Leonard Gardner  
Fred Gerth  
Albert Goddard  
Arthur Godin  
Ernest Graves  
Roger Hammond

Fancis Hart  
Leslie Hill  
Harold Hines  
Harry Hobart  
Timothy F. Horan, Jr.  
John Howley  
Gardner Jolly  
George Kearney  
Frank Keating  
Carmi Kelley  
Harry Kelley  
Walter Kelley  
John Kennell  
John P. Kerrigan  
Joseph Kerrigan  
Frederick H. Knight  
Alex Lacz  
Ben E. Lamere  
Joel J. Lamere  
Walter Luce  
Ralph Lawrence  
Loreston Manley  
Vernon Manley  
Orlyn Martin  
Robert Martin  
Vere Martin  
Arthur Maynard  
William Morgan  
Raymond Mudge  
Harry Murphy  
Patrick Nealon, Jr.  
Olaf Naess  
Ralph Parker  
Ralph Pearsons  
Edward F. Phelan

Maurice Pinney  
Ernest Pratt  
Elmer Provo  
Rudolph Ragucci  
Charles J. Regan  
Joseph Riechiedski  
Curtis Robinson  
Fred E. Rowe  
Henry Rowe  
Joseph Rushlow  
Ben Russell  
Ernest Schoenfeld  
Glenn Sears  
Ralph Sears, Jr.  
Roy Sears  
Hollis Shaffner  
Daniel Sheehan  
John Sheehan  
Horace Slocum  
Ralph Smith  
Raymond Smith

Bert Snow  
James Snow  
Henry Soulia  
Clyde Spaulding  
Raymond Spaulding  
Walker Spaulding  
Henry Stickney  
William Stickney  
Harold Stoddard  
Wm. Tapper, Jr.  
William Terry  
Arthur Thomas  
John Townsend  
Dennis Tyo  
Wallace Tyo  
Joe Waskivitch  
Marsh Whelden  
Richard Whelden  
Robert Wilmoth  
Walter Wood

One hundred and eleven names.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE VILLAGE

The restless spirit of change in the white race led to the discovery of Ludlow. The energy and invention of the same race made it habitable. Though it is but a speck, it helps to hold together the crust of the great globe called the earth, and, apparently, the time allotted for its creation was limited, and therefore the surface was left only partly finished. However that may be, it swung with the other particles of our planet in the great balance of time, century after century, before the attention of the white man was drawn to its natural resources.

When the first settlers came, the first thought was for shelter and homes, the next was to establish a center of trade in the town. It was some time before the location was decided upon. Josiah Fletcher, one of the first settlers in town, settled and built the first frame house in town in 1790, on lower Main street. After his death in 1825, Silas



Warren lived on the place for many years. J. W. Kimball took down the old Fletcher house in 1870, at which time his own residence was built.

Shortly after Mr. Fletcher's arrival, Peter and Stephen Read, Ebenezer Gilbert, and Thomas Bixby settled north, and west of north of what is now 'Grahamsville, and they tried hard to locate the village or center of trade at that place. About this time, Arioeh Smith, Avery Denison, and Jesse Fletcher, settled where Smithville now is. They, also, tried to encourage the growth of a village at the place where they had settled, but were no more successful than the settlers at Grahamsville. In 1801, Andrew Pettigrew came to town and settled on South Hill, where James Ward lived later. Mr. Pettigrew built a store there, and did an extensive business for those early days. He was a man of push, with considerable influence in the community and he, also, tried to have a village planted on South Hill. Josiah Fletcher's movements, however, seemed to exert a controlling influence in establishing the center of trade where the village now is. Others followed his lead, and built in the same vicinity, and favored by the position near the center of the town, the village kept on growing, till now Ludlow has approximately three hundred dwelling-houses within the corporation limits and twenty tenements in business blocks. In this description, all those buildings will be omitted whose description is found elsewhere. The following are some of the oldest houses, and a few of the more modern residences in the village.

In 1797, Eliakim Hall built a small house where Moses Townsend's house stands, on the corner of Lower Main street and Commonwealth Avenue. Mr. Hall lived in part of the building, and in the other part, had the first store kept in town. He continued to do business here till 1810, when he was succeeded by Simeon Burbank, who remained till 1825, and was followed by Abram and Shepard Adams. They did business at that place till 1843, when they removed the little red store to the place now occupied by the grounds of Mrs. F. A. Walker's residence, near the river, and was used as a blacksmith shop. In 1849, William Spaulding built the stone house that is now the Townsend

residence, and for several years kept store on the first floor, and lived on the second floor.

The next building of which any trace can be found, was a potash factory built in 1800 by W. M. and D. W. Hall, brothers. They are said to have lived in a part of the building where they carried on their business. It stood about five rods from the present highway, back of the Leland house on East Main street.

In 1800, Asa Fenn built a house nearly on the site of the F. A. Walker barn. He used this building for a hatter's shop, where he made fur caps, lining them with lamb's wool. It is said that he went around among the farmers in town, and bought the privilege of shearing their young lambs. He also manufactured the old-fashioned stove-pipe hat. About 1845, this building was moved down the street, and was later the property of Mrs. Angelette Strong. In 1801, Mr. Fenn built for his own residence, the house where Miss Jennie Sinclair once lived.

The William Spafford house was built in 1810 by Nathan P. Fletcher. Later Artemas Spafford built on the ell part. In 1835, Abram and Shepard Adams built the residence where J. G. Sargent lives, known for many years as the Bailey place. The brick of which this house was built, was made in the brick-yard of Andrew Keyes.

John and James Withington built the old house known as "The Beehive" in 1810. They lived in part of the house, and used the other part for a cabinet shop. The first furniture offered for sale in Ludlow, was at this place. The building was taken down in 1897 and replaced the same year by a new one built by J. W. Kimball and Prescott Adams.

In 1825, Capt. Joseph Patterson built the house where Mrs. Martin Meehan later lived. It was first used for a comb factory, by Daniel Thompson. He made coarse, fine and ornamental combs from both horn and gutta-percha, and found a market for his goods in Boston and New York.

About 1835, the Withington Bros. removed their cabinet works to that building. They made all the coffins then used in town. None were kept in stock and when they received an order for one, they frequently worked all night in order to have it ready. The ornaments were plain and but few



used. The price ranged from two dollars to three and a half.

The Frank A. Walker house was built by Abram and Shepard Adams in 1843. It was built for a store, and occupied by them until 1851, when they failed. The failure caused much inconvenience to many people, of this town, as nearly all had unlimited confidence in the soundness of their financial standing. They did a very extensive business in the mercantile line. This residence was thoroughly repaired in 1897, when the verandas and tower were added to the building. It will be remembered by many of Ludlow's former residents, as the home of the late Judge Wm. H. Walker.

In 1820, Thomas Haild built a small shop on the ground now occupied by the Catholic Church. He made nearly all the wooden plows then used in town. They were made entirely of wood, excepting a small steel point which was fastened to the mold-board. This kind of plow was called the land plow. Swivel plows were unknown in those days. Arioeh Smith of Smithville forged the points for the plows. As he had not learned the art of tempering them, the points were sent to Rutland, Vt., to be tempered. Mr. Haild also built the old-fashioned sleighs, ox-sleds, carts, and ox-yokes, and did general repairing. He built a small house at about the time he built his shop, which stood in front of where the present Catholic parsonage stands.

A petition of incorporation for Ludlow village was presented to the legislature by Jesse Bailey, then representative from Ludlow, at the session of October, 1819, and it was incorporated Mar. 29, 1820.

Previous to 1820, Josiah Fletcher owned all the land now occupied by the village on the south side of the river. In 1800, Mr. Fletcher offered for sale, all the land along Black River, from the bridge near the Black River Woolen Mills to Jewell Brook, at thirty-seven and a half cents per acre. This land was again offered for sale in 1826 at ten dollars per acre and in 1893, building lots were sold on Pleasant Street Extension, at the rate of \$3,200 per acre.

In 1795, a temporary bridge was built across the river where the iron bridge now stands and the felling and burning of the forest then commenced, but no attempt at

settlement was made for several years afterward, and as the ground was low and wet, and flooded in the spring and fall, willows and swamp alders sprung up. All through where Main and Pleasant streets now are, the land was nearly worthless. Aug. 26, 1822, Asa White purchased of Nathan P. Fletcher, one acre of land. This land is now occupied by the Ludlow Woolen Mills, and that portion of Main street adjoining. Apr. 14, 1825, Mr. White purchased of Emery Burpee, fifty-four square rods of land, it being that portion of Main street west of Depot street, and that occupied by the R. E. Hathorn store, the Okemo Tavern, and the Howard furniture store. Mr. White built a house where the hay-scales formerly stood. The frame was raised June 25, 1825, this being the first house erected in Ludlow village, south of the river. In the same month, Mr. White sold to the town, a strip from the south side of his land, and Main street was laid out, and also Depot street from the old Congregational church to Moses Mayo's house on South Hill, where Harold Ford now lives. The town then built a suitable bridge where the Fletchers had built the temporary one, and the same year, built a bridge where now is the "Mill Bridge". The freshet of 1828 washed away the bridge where the new concrete bridge, built in 1928 at a cost of \$39,000. now is. It was immediately rebuilt, and stood until 1850, when it was replaced by a covered wooden bridge, which, in turn, was replaced by the iron bridge in 1885.

Mr. White lived in his first house but a few years, and then sold out to Ezra Woodruff. About 1830, the old house was moved to the ground now occupied by the store of the Fuller Bros. The old house was moved back to the rear of the store, and used for many years.

When Mr. White removed from his first house, he had built for himself in 1828, a second house on the ground now occupied in part by the east end of the Hammond block. The well which Mr. White dug there is still in condition to be used.

Mr. White was born in Washington, N. H., July 10, 1782, and came with his father to Mt. Holly in 1788. He married Lydia Dutton, and had ten children: Lucy, Maria, Lydia,



Alvin, William, Asa, Louisa, Selina, Olive, and Harriet. Mr. White died Mar. 28, 1853.

In 1828, Judge Reuben Washburn built the old house on the corner of Main and Elm streets which is still standing. In the same year, Jacob Patrick built the house now owned by Mrs. T. S. Dailey. Mr. and Mrs. Patrick occupied this house for fifty-two years.

The first store built south of the river, was built in 1828 by Stephen Cummings and Elijah Gove, and was later occupied as a harness-shop, by R. E. Hathorn. This building is the oldest one in the village, that has been occupied as a store. All the other old stores, with one exception, have succumbed to time with their founders. When this store was built, it attracted much attention, and encouraged the starting of other branches of business. Accordingly in 1829, Emery Burpee and Lyman Burnham built a grist-mill. It was erected on the site where the wooden part of the Ludlow Woolen Mills stands, near the bridge. This mill had four runs of stones, and four bolts, one for bolting wheat flour, one for rye, one for buckwheat, and one for corn. In those days, all the flour and meal used here, was of home production. The great West was then unsettled. This mill did much grinding for the people of Plymouth and Mt. Holly, the grists being brought mostly on horse-back. This was the best grist-mill ever erected in town. It continued in operation until about 1845. Jonathan Carpenter was the miller in this mill for many years. He lived in a small house that stood where Ed. Warner's machine-shop now stands.

In 1830, Asahel Smith and Moses Haven built a store on the ground now occupied by Jay Brown's block. Mr. Haven died the following year, and the business was carried on for several years by his sons, Augustus and Aaron, who, in 1835, built a small house west of the store, on the site now occupied by the west half of Brown's block. In 1869, it was purchased by Jerry Magoon, who moved it up the Brook road into Harrisville.

The old building occupied by A. F. Sherman for several years as a drug-store, was built by Barnard Tilden in 1834. On the day the frame was raised there was a thunder shower in the afternoon, and the lightening struck the





Barrett Grocery and Sherman's Drug Store, 1868

north-east corner of the building. The damage was repaired by putting in a new post. This building was first used by Mr. Tilden for a cabinet shop. It was next used by Owen Spaulding for a harness shop. Mr. Spaulding brought to town the first barrel of flour that was offered for sale here. It was sold in this building in 1840, and was brought by team from Whitehall, N. Y. The building was next used by Frederick Barlow as a harness store. Geo. E. Walker succeeded Mr. Barlow in the same business. The building was next occupied by John Barrett for a restaurant. The next occupants were Sherman Bros., druggists. Herick and Maitland Woodward used the cellar for a meat market for several years, and Jefferson Baldwin had a shoe-shop in the upper part of the building for many years. The building was moved in 1895, and now stands, the second house from the corner of Elm and Pleasant streets, on Pleasant street extension. A. F. Sherman's new block was erected the same year, at a cost of about \$6.000. It has all the modern improvements, and is the most con-



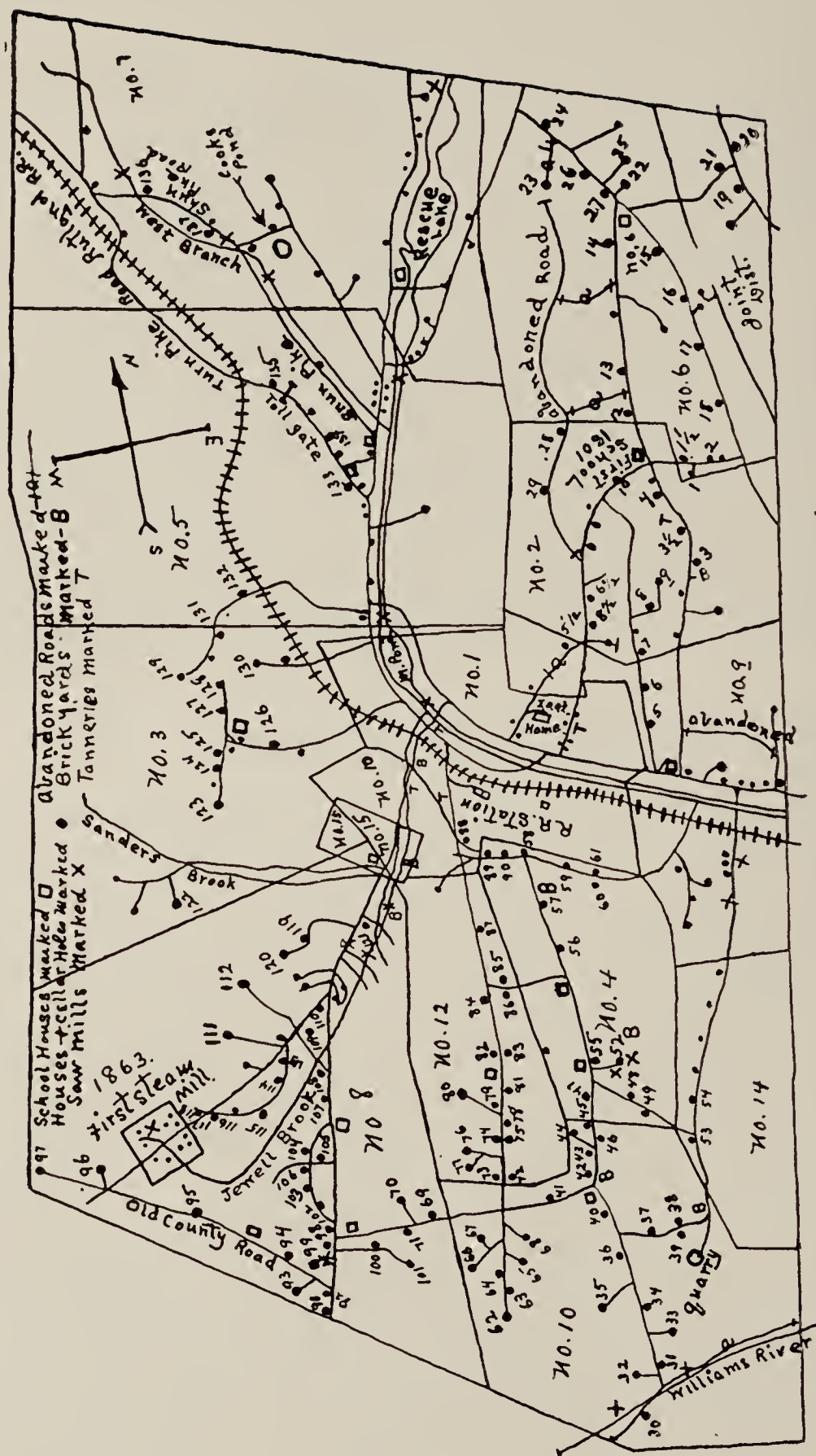
venient, as well as the most substantial business block in town. Mr. Sherman did credit to himself and the whole town in building this block.

All the land lying between Andover and Depot streets, and from Main street to the railroad, was sown to wheat in 1826. Over a thousand bushels of wheat were harvested from this field.

Pleasant street was laid out from the residence of Edward Tapper, east to Elm street, Apr. 12, 1845. Reuben Washburn, at that time, owned nearly all the land along that part of the street. He, being dissatisfied with the laying out of the street, brought suit against the town, with others who owned land adjacent. A justice court was held in Ludlow, and as no agreement of settlement was reached there, it was carried to county court, and on Nov. 7, 1850, a decision was rendered by the court, that the plaintiffs should be awarded one cent each as damages.

## HOUSES AND CELLARS

When our first parents were placed upon the earth, the great law of attraction between man and woman was established, that, in all ages, has been the foundation of home-making. Among those savage or barbarous nations where polygamy is practiced, this law is violated, and among such people, no real homes are found. Adam, with his one "help-meet," has peopled the earth with his descendants, and now the several continents are divided into countries, each with its own jurisdiction, and these again divided and sub-divided into states, townships, etc., till finally we come to the last division of all, which was the first, the homestead, or home place. Though man seeks a home for himself and mate, only as the birds build their nests, as an abiding place for himself and family, yet each is a government in miniature, and as the homes of a people are, so is the nation. From the well-governed homes of the God-fearing New England settlers, has come much of the enterprise and prosperity of the American people, and the humble homes on the rocky hill-sides of Ludlow, have fur-





nished their quota of noble men and women. In the following pages is given a list of the home-builders in Ludlow, as far as they can be ascertained. They will be named in order, by location, rather than by date of settlement, to save space.

### North Hill

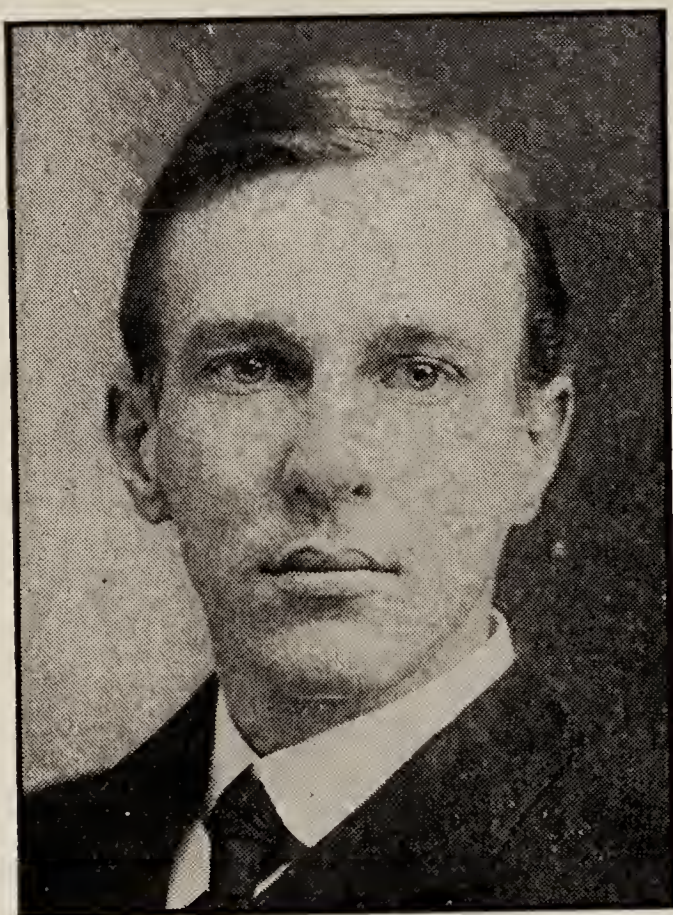
The first settlement in Ludlow was made on North Hill, by James Whitney, who came in 1783 and built a log house, No 1. on the farm later owned by John Henry Whitney. The house stood about forty rods south-east of the present one, No. 1½. When James Whitney came here, he found one vast, unbroken forest, and was the first man to commence the cutting and burning of the timber to bring his land under cultivation. In 1801, he built the house now standing on this farm. In 1805, Granville Whitney built the house east of this one, No. 2, later owned by Jesse Spaulding. James Whitney died in 1814, and from that time till the death of J. H. Whitney, which occurred Jan. 5, 1897, a space of nearly eighty-three years, there were no deaths in this house, which had been occupied by the Whitneys from the time it was built. No other house in town has had so remarkable a record.

In 1785, Elihu Ives came to town, and commenced clearing up the farm later known as the Solon I. Atherton farm. He first built a small log house, No. 3, at the foot of the hill, where his brickyard was located. In 1799, he built the large frame house which was burned on the night of Feb. 26, 1900. In 1825, Mr. Ives built a house on the site of the house later owned by Joseph Sanders and by Nelson Pratt, No. 3½. In 1852, Mr. Ives sold this part of the farm, and moved the house to where it now stands at the foot of the hill near the old brickyard. Curtis Giddings built the house now standing on the Sanders place in 1853.

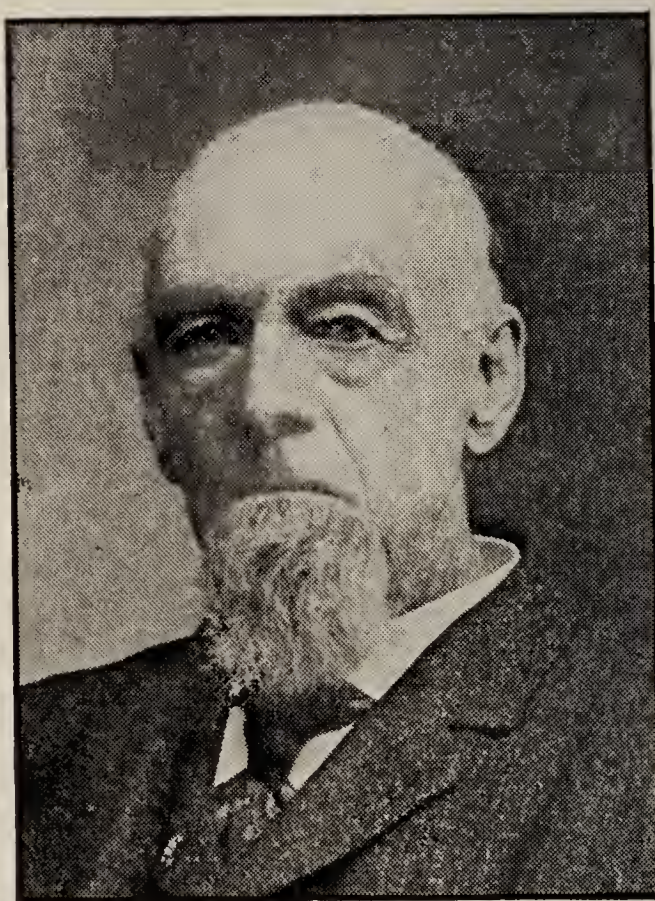
Arad Ross built the house, No. 4, on the E. W. Johnson farm, north of the Sanders place, in 1835. Elisha Johnson, Sr. built the small house a little north of this in 1864.

Going back to the road leading to the Joseph Valentine place, a short distance up the hill from the Black River road, we come to an old cellar where Joseph Eaton Sr.

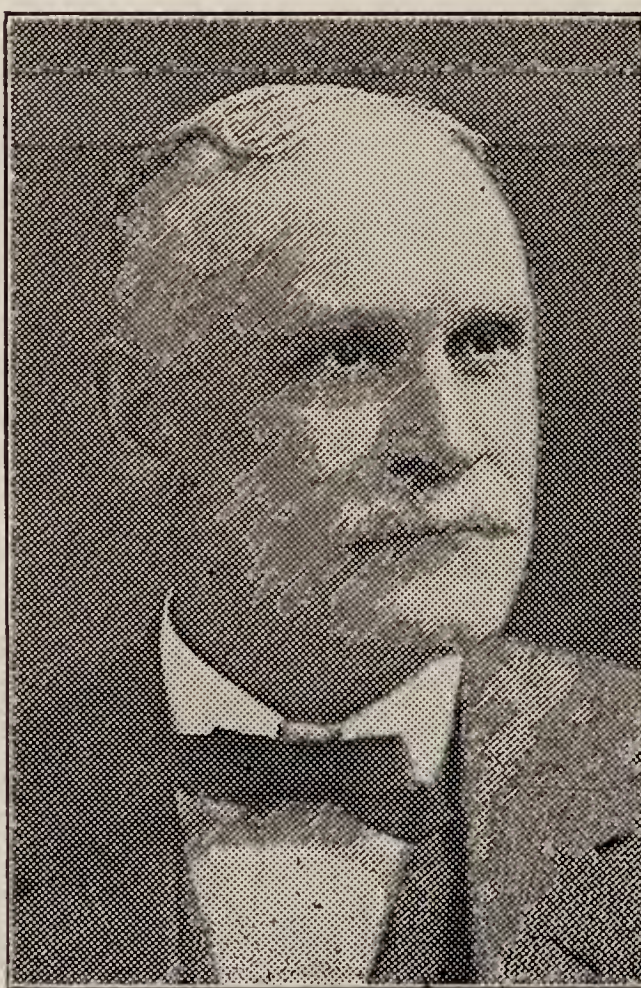




Ernest Moore



Jehial Simonds



William Bixby



built a house, No. 5 in 1795. It was a large, two story house, and had the most commanding view of Black River valley of any house in town. This house was burned on Christmas eve, 1885, Luther Wakefield then owned the farm. The old well with its old fashioned wooden curbing, rope, and bucket, still remain in its original design as its founder left it, and during its existance of more than a century, many hands have drawn pure refreshment from its depths.

Arza Smith built a house, No. 6, on the site of the house once occupied by Joseph Valentine, in 1820. In 1857, Alfred Wakefield took down the old house and built the one now standing the same year. The house north of Mr. Valentine's No. 7, later occupied by Oscar Mathewson, was built by Thomas Wetherbee in 1825.

Up this road, and east of it, once stood a house, No. 8, built by John Spafford in 1802, and a few rods farther north, John Goff built a house, No. 9, in 1795. These houses stood on land that now belongs on the east side of the old Mathewson place, once owned by Thomas W. Kierstead. The house on this farm was built by John Sargent in 1800. In 1814, Ira Mathewson built a house a little farther north, the cellar of which is still visible.

Following up the North Hill road from the village, west of the road on the land once owned by William Wilkins, and formerly owned by Artemus Spaulding, Jacob Sheldon built a house, No. 8½, in 1798. The cellar is still visible. About seventy-five rods south west from the Sheldon place, on the land later known as the King lot and once owned by L. C. Howe, Thomas Hall built a house, No. 5½ in 1815. The highway at the time these houses were built, ran by the Odd Fellows Home from High street, and joined the present highway near Mr. Sheldon's house. A little farther up the hill and east of the road, Thomas Warren built a house, No. 6½, about 1815. Before the house was quite completed, Mr. and Mrs. Warren went to spend Thanksgiving day with his brother, Capt. John Warren, on South Hill, leaving the children at home. When evening came on, the children noticed a mouse's tail hanging down through a crack overhead, and one of them, holding up a candle to burn the mouse's tail, set the house on fire. When Mr.

and Mrs. Warren returned home, they found their home in ashes, and the children shivering and crying, around what fire remained in the cellar.

Going up through the woods, a set of buildings once stood a little west of the schoolhouse, built by Asahel Smith, No. 10, in 1804. Jazer Smith, son of Asahel, owned the farm for many years. At one time it was called the best dairy farm in town, keeping from fifty to sixty cows. John Hayes was the last occupant. The buildings were burned in 1874. About sixty rods from the junction of the roads, on the road going southeast, a house was built by Asa Caldwell in 1803.

William Caldwell built the house, No. 11 where James Pollard now lives, in 1801. North of Mr. Pollard's was a farm, No. 12, known as the "John Boyle place". Zebulon Spaulding built the first set of buildings in 1805, which later were burned. They were replaced the following year and again burned.

On the farm north of this, No. 13, once owned by Henry L. Spaulding, the first house was a log house, built by Elijah Chamberlin about 1795. The house now standing was built by Phineas Spaulding in 1826.

The first house, No. 14, on the place once owned by Willard R. Barker was built by Jonas Dunn, Sr., in 1807. It stood a few rods west of where the present buildings stand, and was moved by Parkhurst Dunn in 1842 to the present building spot. About 1848, Harrison Moore took down the old house, and built the present one the same year. A little log house, No. 13, once stood in the meadow north-east of the H. L. Spaulding house. It was built about 1800 by Capt. John Warren.

On the farm once owned by Austin Dunbar, Abraham Preston built a log house, No. 15, about 1790. It stood east of the road. About 1794 or 1795, Mr. Preston built the main part of the present house. He deeded the farm to Jonas Kennedy in 1795, who deeded to Jonathan Whitcomb in 1798. The farm went next to Jefferson Fullam, who deeded it to Austin Dunbar in 1854. The ell part of the house was built on by Jonathan Whitcomb about 1825.

On the farm next south, No. 16, known as the Livingstone farm, on the road leading to Proctorsville, the house



was built by James Whitney about 1798. It is said that a log house was built there at a still earlier date, but actual proofs are wanting. A set of buildings once stood east of the highway between the Livingstone place and the Granville Fullam place, No. 17. They were built by Ezra Woodbury about 1820. The Granville Fullam house was built by Joseph Kennedy in 1791. This house was intended for a tavern, but was never used for that purpose. As far as can be ascertained this house is the oldest one now standing in Ludlow.

The next house, No. 18, known as the L. G. Fullam place, was built by Lewis Patch in 1806. He sold it before it was completed to Henry Adams, who finished it.

On the road that crosses the north-east corner of the town, the house once owned by Frank Vittum, No. 19, was built by Orlando Whitney about 1796. The house was thoroughly repaired by Joseph Baldwin several years ago at a cost of \$500. In the pasture west of Mr. Vittums, Silas Howe built a house not far from 1820. James Hitchcock built the house No. 20, on the Ellery Dix place in 1795. Benjamin Page built the house once occupied by Benjamin Dix, No. 21, about 1800.

Crossing back to the highway at the school-house of district No. 6, the first house, No. 22, on the Calvin Whitney farm stood a few rods north of where the present house stands, and was built by Joseph Chamberlain about 1792. In 1800, John Ordway built the house now standing. Mr. Ordway was a man of extraordinary strength both of muscle and temper, and very rough in his ways, but was called a fine mechanic for those days. He once made a pattern for a broad-axe, but omitted to make a hole for the handle in the wooden model. He took his pattern to Jacob Patrick and asked his price for making an axe like the pattern. Mr. Patrick noticed that there was no place for the handle, but gave the price, five dollars. A few days later, Mr. Ordway called for his axe, and, noticing that there was no eye for the handle, asked for the pattern. This showed him his mistake. He said not a word, but paid for the axe, and a few days later returned with a model for another axe, containing the necessary eye. Mr. Ordway built the barn farthest west from the Whitney house. It

has the strongest frame of any barn in town. He had five sons, all of whom built and operated saw mills. Levi built the sawmill between the ponds above Tyson. David and Zephaniah built the mill on Twenty Mile Stream, in Cavendish, still remembered by many as the Ordway mill. Langdon located in Sherburne, and Washington in Chester. David resembled his father in some of his peculiar ways. Having no children to trust to, he personally attended to the arrangements for his own burial, erecting a monument suitably inscribed, purchasing a casket of stone which was kept in the house, and having his funeral sermon preached long before he died.

John Sargent built the house No. 23, where Frank Wilder later lived in 1795. A house formerly stood near the junction of the road from Frank Wilder's with the main highway, No. 24. It was built by John Whitcomb about 1800. About the same year, Sewall Whitcomb built a house, No. 25, on the farm known later as the Edward Whitcomb place. Edward built the house now standing. In early times, a road ran along the west brow of the hill, from the old Mathewson place, joining the main highway at the place where John Whitcomb built. Four sets of buildings that are now gone once stood along this road. The first house south of Frank Wilder's No. 26, was built by Daniel Ritter about 1790. It was a small log house. About seventy-five rods farther south, Robert Walker built a small house, No. 27, in 1800. He lived there several years and then built a saw mill in Grahamsville, and moved to that place. Still farther south was a house, No. 28, later owned by Calvin Sargent, father of Darwin Sargent who lived there many years. This farm was at one time one of the best farms in town. It is all used for pasturing now. About a hundred rods south of the Sargent place Mr. Kelly built a house which he occupied some time. This house stood at the base of the hill in the Mathewson pasture, on the west side, No. 29.



## SOUTH HILL

About 1815, William Hemenway built a small house No. 30 near the town line of Andover, east of the road leading to Isaiah Lovejoy's house. This house is now gone. In 1825, he built the house No. 31 just above the junction of the roads where George Robbins formerly lived. Isaac Hemenway, brother of William, built a house No. 32 a little west of the junction of the roads, and a little back of the river road, about 1820. It is now gone. Coming up the hill, Ira Hale built the house No. 33 where Larkin Wilcox once lived, in 1825. On the farm where Joseph Pratt formerly lived, Elijah Chamberlain erected a small house No. 34 about 1810. It stood there for several years, and in 1850, Austin Adams replaced it with the house later occupied by Mrs. Pratt. In 1801, Levi Adams built a house No. 35 on the farm once occupied by Lawson Gibson. He lived there for many years, and was bed-ridden for several years before his death.

John Tilden built the house No. 36 south of the Horace Wadleigh place, at the top of the hill west of the road, about 1805. Turning at the foot of the hill, eastward, to the farm formerly occupied by William Earle, this place was settled by John Adams, who built the house No. 37 now standing in 1808. Abel Adams built a house No. 38 a little south-east of his brother John's in 1810. He manufactured whetstones for several years. Benjamin Withington built a house No. 39 on the opposite side of the road from the Abel Adams place, about 1820. Thomas Ross cleared the place and built a house where Horace Wadleigh lived later, in 1801. The house No. 40 was burned in 1883, and the present house was built by Cyrus O. Lovell the same year. Going north up to the school-house, and turning west to where Geo. Dumas lives, Andrew Pettigrew built a small house No. 41 on the site of the present one. The present house was built about 1835 by Phineas Adams. On the road leading from the school-house to the village, Leonard Ross settled in 1801, and built a house No. 42 which was burned in 1879, and was not rebuilt. The next house, No. 43, where David Miner

later lived, was built by Enos Estabrooks in 1833. Turning here, and going westward to the farm formerly owned by Mrs. Martha Giddings, the house, No. 44 was built by Samuel Ross in 1808. A log house No. 46, was built by John Warren in 1806. In 1810 he built the house known as the Jonathan Whitcomb house, No. 45, later owned by Frank Wilkins.

At the foot of the hill, and a little south of S. S. Mayo's place, on the west side of the road, near the spring that supplies the watering-trough, George Adams settled, and built a house, No. 47, in 1802. About 1822, this house was moved up the road, and is the main part of Mr. Mayo's house, No. 50. Later Winsor Smith built on the ell part. A house, No. 48, was built on the east side of the road, and north of the road leading to the Benjamin Goodwin farm, by Albert Adams, about 1815. This house has been gone for many years. The house, No. 49, formerly owned by Benjamin Goodwin, and owned later by Nathan Benjamin, was built by Samuel Ross in 1831.

Following down the brook to where Samuel Ross' saw-mill stood, Mr. Ross built the house, No. 51 which is described in the saw-mill history, about 1830. Near this place John Osborne built a house, No. 52, in 1850. Going south again to the Chas. Ray place, a small log house, No. 53, was built here in 1800 by James McKinstry, and remained there till 1843, when it was taken down and replaced by Horace Adams. James McKinstry came from Charlton, Mass. He had ten children; Evan, Louisa, Julia, Alzina, (who married Benj. Withington), Florintina, Mary Ann, Harriet, Alonzo, John and James.

About seventy-five rods north of the Charles Ray house Ephriam Johnson built a house, No. 54, about 1800. Nearly every trace of the house is gone. The land that Mr. Johnson cleared, has grown up to timber again, some of the trees being from ten to twelve inches in diameter. The stone heaps that were piled up in the fields that he tilled are still to be seen among the timber. Mr. Johnson made chopping-trays, and some of them are still in town.

Returning to the road leading to the village to the farm once occupied by Chas. W. Hemenway, the house No. 55,



was built by Wm. Tenney in 1795. Mr. Tenney lived there five or six years, and the property then passed into the hands of Simon Spaulding, of whom an account will be found in the brick-yard history. The farm was purchased by Enos Mayo, who lived there about fifty years. Mr. Hemenway bought the farm in 1874. He took down the original barns in 1876, and the one now standing was built the same year, while the Centennial celebration of our national independence was in session at Philadelphia.

The house, No. 56, on the John Riggs place, was built by Anson Spaulding in 1846. In 1798, Zachariah Spaulding built the house, No. 57, on the farm known as the Parker Spaulding place, later owned by W. H. Stearns who thoroughly repaired it in 1904. Zachariah Spaulding was a prominent man in his time, being influential in town and church matters. The brick house, No. 58, at the junction of the roads will be found described in the history of the Universalist church. The house, No. 59, on the farm formerly known as the John Shea farm later owned by W. H. Pitts, was built in 1820 by Alvin Mason. The Zachariah Parker farm was settled by Orrin Bates in 1800. He first built a log house, No. 60, a little south-east of where the house, No. 61, now stands, in what is now the orchard. Mr. Bates commenced to build the present house in 1814. He died before it was finished, but had moved into the house previous to his death. The house was finished by James Coleman in 1816. There were three Bates brothers who came to this vicinity from Sturbridge, Mass. Orrin and Putnam settled in Ludlow, and James located on the Twenty Mile Stream in Cavendish. He was the grandfather of J. H. Bates, the late owner of Brook Farm. A sketch of Putnam Bates will be found in the history of the Blacksmiths. His son, Addison, was the father of George W. Bates who will be remembered by some.

Turning now to the road leading past the town-farm, to the place at the end of the road, formerly known as the Nehemiah Pettigrew place, the first house, No. 62, erected was a log house and was built by Amasa Smith in 1802. About 1818, Parker Pettigrew, son of Andrew, purchased the farm, and, in 1827, built the house now standing there.

In 1837, he sold the farm to the town, and it was used for several years for the town-farm. In 1850, Nehemiah Pettigrew, son of Parker, bought the place, and lived there till 1889.

In 1820, Josiah Walker built a house, No. 63, a little north of the Pettigrew place. It stood east of the road. The old cellar is still visible, and the trees of the old apple-orchard are still standing. About 1826, Warren Walker, brother to Josiah, built a house, No. 64, on what was later the town-farm. It stood west of the road, directly below the wind-mill on the town-farm. The cellar is still visible.

In 1820, Joseph Taylor, built a small block house, No. 65, east of the road from where Warren Walker lived, near the stone ledge. Block houses were built of square hewn timbers, dove-tailed at the ends so as to fit closely the entire length. In some parts of the country, these houses were quite common, being proof against the bullets and arrows of the Indians. In 1825, Mr. Taylor took down his house, No. 65, and moved it to the farm of Hyland Snell, the house may be traced on the map by the corresponding numbers. It stood west of the road, opposite the old lime-kiln. Further reference to Mr. Taylor will be found in the history of lime-kilns.

In 1830, Alfred Walker built the house, No. 66, that is now standing on the town farm. In 1805, Richard Smith, brother of Amasa, began clearing the land that is now comprised in the town-farm. This farm was purchased by the town in 1849. He built a small log house, No. 67, north of the present buildings, in what is now the pasture. It disappeared long ago.

Going from the town farm toward the village, in the corner on the south-east side of the road, near the road leading over Bear Hill, in the lot known as the Whitcomb lot, was a house, No. 68, built by Arema Smith, in about 1800. Following the Bear Hill road westward, north of the road in the pasture once owned by Wesley Barton, was a house No. 69, built by David Emery in 1798. A few of the apple trees set out by Mr. Emery are still standing, a little east of the old cellar hole. A little farther west, about twenty-five rods north of the highway, on land once



owned by William English, and near the north line of his farm, Jacob Hemenway built a log house, No. 70, in 1795. He lived there a few years, and, in 1805, built a frame house on the site where William English's buildings stood. The house, No. 71, burned in 1888, was re-built by Mr. English the same year, and again burned in 1896. It has never been replaced. On the place where the late E. C. Pinney formerly lived, and east of the high-way, Chas. Stimson, Sr., built a house, No. 72, in 1800. This house stood for a great many years. A few rods south from this house, Mr. Stimson had a coopers' shop, where he manufactured butter-tubs, meat-barrels, etc. In 1848, Aaron Stimson built the house No. 73, on the E. C. Pinney place. Following the high-way north from this house, at the foot of the hill, and a little south of Luther Johnsons' house, Samuel Hemenway built a small log house, No. 74, west of the road in 1800. On the opposite side of the road, Artemas Terrill built a small log house, No. 75, about five years later. About 1810, Samuel Hemenway built a frame house, No. 76, on the west side of the E. C. Pinney place, in what is now called "the twenty-acre lot". Zachariah Parker once lived there, and a little later, Levi Gassett. About sixty rods south-west from this house, was another house, No. 77, built about 1808 by Emery Burpee. He lived there till about 1825. All that remains of these houses are the old cellars.

The house, No. 78, where Luther Johnson lived was built by Charles Stimson, Jr. in 1840. James Haven built the house, No. 79, where Sarah Haven lived in 1810. At that time Mr. Haven had built over fifty log houses in different parts of New England, on unclaimed lots, for the sake of gaining possession of the land. In 1821, Chas. Stimson, Sr. built a house, No. 80, west of Sarah Havens' place, in the meadow once owned by Darius Gassett. The buildings on this place have disappeared. The house, No. 81, on the farm known as the Lorenzo Howard place, was built by Edward Haven about 1815. Putnam Bates built a house, No. 82, in 1800 on the Darius Gassett place. This house has been repaired several times, and is in fair condition now. A few rods north from this place, and east of the road,

near the south line of W. H. H. Chapman's farm, Sigman Haven built a log house, No. 83, in 1800. He lived there several years. West of the road from the W. H. H. Chapman's house, Zedekiah Haven built a log house, No. 84, in 1798. Where Mr. Chapman's house stands, Moses Haven built a frame house, No. 85, in 1795. Mr. Chapman took down the old house and built the present one in 1871. Nearly in front of this house, on the opposite side of the cross road, Edward Haven built a small house, No. 86, in 1800. In 1795, Dyer Haven built the main part of the house, No. 87, formerly owned by Patrick Sullivan. John Snell bought this place in 1803, and lived there many years. In 1821, William Clark of New York visited Mr. Snell, and while there, was taken sick with small-pox, Mr. Clark's wife and Mr. Snell took the disease also, and the town authorities ordered them removed to a pest house erected for them on the east side of West Mountain. Mr. Snell said that he owned his house and farm, and should be sick at home. As he refused to move the place was quarantined for some time. Several people had been exposed, and about thirty cases were fully developed. Mr. Snell's house was used as a pest house, but no one died of the disease.

The next place north is the Michael Gilligan place, which is described in the history of tanneries. Just east of Mr. Gilligan's house, No. 88, Herbert Chapman built a house, No. 89, in 1852. It was burned in 1885. Turning at this place, and following the road up the hill nearly to the woods, Andrew Johnson built a house, No. 90, in 1800 east of the road in Mr. Gilligan's meadow. Every trace of this house is gone.

Passing over to the Andover road, at the Andover line, and going toward the village, the first house, a log house, No. 91, was built by Benjamin Warren in 1815, the old house was taken down, and Ephriam Taylor built the house now standing. On this place there is an apple tree, the first tree next to the end of the barn, standing near the road, bearing on orange-sweet apple, which it is said was started in a flower-pot from seed, by Mrs. Taylor.

Eben Thurston built a house, No. 92, on the site where



the Johnathan Hemenway house burned, about 1805. About 1820, John Thurston moved this house, and set it west of the road, nearly opposite where Henry Hemenway's sugar house formerly stood. In 1830, Elijah Hemenway built a frame house on the site from which the other was moved. Jonathan, son of Elijah, was married to Eliza Heald of Cavendish, March 18, 1838, and about that time they built on an addition on the north end, where Jonathan lived for about forty years. These houses stood in the coldest and most snowey place in town. In times of severe blizzards the house would be completely covered with snow, and sometimes candles had to be kept burning through the day. Mr. Hemenway was a man of most genial disposition and everything was well with him if his affectionate wife, Eliza, was by his side. In times of severe storms in winter, he would say, "Well, Eliza, let the wind blow. We will keep a warm fire, and the storm and wind will stop sometime". In the winter of 1862, the house was completely covered with snow, and a yearling colt was led over it. There is nothing left to mark the spot of this once happy home, excepting the old cellar.

Southwest of Mr. Hemenway's house, in the pasture belonging to the Ephraim Taylor farm, Thomas Evans built a house, No. 93, in 1800. Several people lived there afterward, but the house has been gone for many years. Going back to the Hemenway place, we come to where the old county road passed by, leading to the west over the mountain to Mt. Holly, which can be traced out in the map of the roads in connection with this history. About a hundred and fifty rods west of Mr. Hemenway's house, we come to where Jesse Smith lived. He built his house, No. 94, in what is called the south mowing, in 1798. He was a prominent man and held many town offices.

West from Mr. Smith's house about a quarter of a mile, the old cellar may be seen where Frank Sinclair built a house, No. 95, in 1799. Passing along the county road, to where the weston road crosses it at the top of the mountain, about seventy-five rods from the Andover line, Ira Sweat built a log house, No. 96, in 1825. It stood a little north of the present Weston road. Its location may be

found on the map of the roads. Going south-west to the Mt. Holly town line, John Hill built a house, No. 97, in 1800. The house stood in Ludlow and the barn in Mt. Holly. The cellar may be seen in the Barton pasture. Returning to the Andover road, the house, No. 98, where Charles Esty lived was built by Asa Barton in 1835. A little south of this, an old cellar can be seen where Daniel Hemenway built a house, No. 99, about 1830. A little east of Mr. Esty's house, in his mowing, Daniel Wheaton built a house, No. 100, in 1800, and his brother, Levi Wheaton built a log house, No. 101, on the side of Bear Hill, where the old orchard now stands at the upper side of Mr. Esty's mowing. The house has been gone for a long time. Wheaton brook took its name from these two men. A little north of Esty's north line Herbert Chapman built a small house, No. 102, in 1825. It stood in the bank west of the road, and traces of it remain. A little north of this house, in H. L. Barton's meadow, about ten rods from the road, and four or five rods south of the brook, Melvin Hayward built a house about 1835. In 1802, Simeon Cobb built a house, No. 103, on the site where H. L. Barton's house stands. Mr. Barton built the house now standing in 1857. In 1899, Ralph Barton, son of H. L. Barton, built a house south of his fathers'. It was the first house of its kind built in Ludlow. The roof is covered with modern roofing paper, and the sides are covered with corrugated iron, crimped to resemble clapboards. In 1819 Rufus Barton built a house No. 104, where Wesley Barton lived later. He cleared up this farm. Wesley Barton took down the old house and built the present one in 1864. In 1849, Asa Barton built a house, No. 105, near the bridge on the road leading from the highway to Wesley Barton's house. This house was moved in 1895 and was used by Mr. Barton for a carriage house. About 1836, Eben Barton built a small house, No. 106, a little south of Wesley Barton's house, and about 1845 moved it about 100 rods west. Where the house stood is still called the Eben lot. The house has been gone many years, but the cellar is still to be seen.

The house formerly owned by Enoch Day, No. 107, was built by Eben Barton in 1830. Stephen Weston built the



main barn in 1848, and J. N. Harris, the one next the road in 1879. Cub Bradley built a house, No. 108, below the bridge north of the Day place in 1810. The Joseph Taylor house that stood across the road from the old lime kiln in Hyland Snell's pasture, has already been referred to. In 1837, Martin Snell built a small house, No. 109, a little north of the lime kiln, in the swamp. He moved it soon after, and it is now the ell part of the Hyland Snell house, No. 110. Martin Snell built the main part of the house.

On the road leading to Weston, the house once occupied by John Joyal was built by Alonzo Grover 1860. Melvin Hayward built the house, No. 111, where Daniel Keating once lived in 1832. Daniel Hemenway built the first house, No. 112, later owned by Levi Barnard in 1820. In 1835, Joseph Gould built on a new ell part. The house once owned by William Grant, No. 113, was built by Abram Adams, in 1848. In 1810, John Heselton built a house, No. 114, about a dozen rods south of Mr. Grant's house. The highway formerly passed by these houses, went through Daniel Keating's pasture, and crossed the present Weston road at the top of Orchard Hill. Elijah Hemenway built a house, No. 115, on this road just west of Wesley Barton's west line, in 1810. About seventy-five rods west of Mr. Hemenway's house, Edward Burnap built a house, No. 116, about the same time that Mr. Hemenway built. The cellar is still visible from the Orchard Hill road, looking east. Mr. Burnap was a very strong man, and did most of his cartage to and from the village on his back. It is said that at one time he started home from the village with a bushel of corn meal, a quintal of cod fish (100 lbs.) a fair sized cheese, and some other small bundles. When he got within half a mile of his house, he met a bear in the road. Laying down his small cargo, he picked up a hand-spike or lever that was lying near by where logging had been carried on, and opened battle with the bear, killed him, and carried him home with his other goods. The bear weighed three hundred pounds, yet, according to the story, Mr. Burnap carried it with no more apparent effort than some of the young men of the present

day exert to carry a cigarette. He was a very good natured man, and the boys had great times playing jokes on him. He had no more ingenuity than a child, and once got Martin Snell to make an axle for his ox-cart. He was asked to get the measurements, but this he could not do, so he took the cart-pole and axle on his shoulders, and carried them to Mr. Snell so that he could take the measurements himself.

About forty rods west of where Mr. Burnap built his house, Ephraim Puffer built a log house, No. 117, in 1800. It stood at the end of the road, just west of the present high-way, and a little south of the old apple orchard on Orchard Hill. Later, he moved to North Hill. Further mention will be made of him in the description of that part of the town. Luther Hayward moved into Mr. Puffer's place, and lived there several years. He was another man whom the boys liked to play tricks on. About 1830, he attended a June training, at the village, and in the afternoon having a little too much new rum down for training, the boys got his flint-lock gun, and filled it more than half full with alternate charges of powder and wadding of hemp tow, and then filled out the remainder of the barrell with wadding. When he got ready to start home, they managed to set fire to the tow, which burned very slowly, so that he got part way home before the first charge went off surprising Mr. Hayward very much. He went a little farther, and bang! went another charge, and he began to think the witches had possession of his gun, but still he went on till he reached the path where the dug-way road now is, when the third charge went off. The strength of his rum being somewhat weakened, he began to be scared at the thought that his gun was loaded for everlasting shooting, and hurried along as fast as he could till he was within a few rods of his home, when the last and heaviest charge exploded, and almost stood him on his head. This was too much. He threw the gun from him with all his might, shouting, "By the great Jehovah, if you witches want this gun you may have it", and ran home a sober man. Each charge of powder as it exploded, set



fire to the tow beneath, which burned slowly down to the next charge.

A little west of the high-way at the foot of Orchard Hill—Hitchcock built a small log house, No. 118, in 1805. He cleared considerable land, and lived there several years. At the top of the mountain, where the steam mill stood, eleven houses were built by the steam mill company in 1864 and 1865. Four of them were loghouses and the remainder were frame houses.

Returning to the junction of the Andover and Weston roads, Paul D. Sears, 2nd, built the house now standing at the foot of the hill in 1875. James Haven built the first house on the farm where Rollin D. Sears lived. It stood about thirty rods north of the present house, in the mowing near a large rock. In 1842, Henry Warren moved the old house to the present location for an ell to the house that he built the same year. In 1896, Rollin Sears took down the old ell and built a new one. The house where Frank Fuller lived was built by Alvin Chapman in 1867. The main part of the one formerly occupied by Chas. Harris was built by George Harris in 1888. The ell was built by Paul D. Sears 1st, in 1855. Alvin Chapman built the house later owned by Orris Grover in 1870. The house that Henry Harris lived in was built by him in 1882. The first house erected on the D. A. Bachelder farm, No. 119, was built by Edward Haven about 1820. It stood about forty rods south of the present one, near the large black cherry tree. Ephriam Warren built the house now standing in 1834, and Mr. Bachelder remodeled it in 1895. The house now standing on the O. J. Taylor farm, No. 120, was built by Mr. Taylor in 1848. In 1805, Johnathan Elliot built a house on the west side of Mr. Taylor's farm. Traces of the cellar are still visible. Mr. Elliot cleared the most of this farm. It is said that he was the best chopper ever in Ludlow, and that he would fall an acre of heavy old growth timber in a day. The most of the young men to-day would want two weeks to fell an acre.

The house once occupied by Daniel Doyle was built by

him in 1896. A little north of the bridge, below the Doyle house, and east of the road, Hezekiah Haven built a house, No. 121, in 1812. The cellar is still to be seen. On the road leading from the bridge on the east side of the Roland Adams farm, near Henry Harris land, Zedekiah Haven, Jr. built a small log house in 1807. No trace of it is left. On the west side of the same farm, Parker Haven built a frame house in 1843. It burned in 1870. The cellar still remains. The house where Henry Fuller lived was built by Seneca Haven in 1843. The house where Clarence Warren lived is described in the history of the saw-mills. Following up the Sanders brook, Gideon Sanders built a house, No. 122, about 1802, later owned by Johnathan A. Mayo, and known as the Sanders lot. The brook took its name from him. About a fourth of a mile west of this place near the base of the mountain, and nearly in range with the Bachelder buildings, Artemas Terrill built a house in 1836. Later, Samuel Dunbar lived there. A little north of this place Abram and Sheppard Adams cleared fifty acres of land in one season. It is said that they harvested 2,500 bushels of wheat from this clearing at one crop. It is also said that they sold the wheat at \$2.50 per bushel. Then bread stuff was all produced at home.

Timothy Putnam built the house, No. 123, on West Hill later occupied by Frank W. Howard in 1810. It is said that Mr. Putnam at one time owned a cross bull which once attacked him. He had a hay fork in his hand and succeeded in killing the bull after a severe struggle.

Joseph Gould, Sr. built a house on the site where Rufus Warner later lived, about 1820. In 1830, this house was moved, and is now the ell to the house later owned by H. L. Petty, No. 124. This farm was formerly known as the Thomas French farm. The main part of the house was built in 1842. A little north of this house, part way down the hill toward the brook, Jerry Goodell built a log house, No. 125, about 1795. No one in town is able to tell anything about where the family went. The oldest people in town do not remember them. Going down the road, east from the forks of the roads, John Gilbert built a small house, No. 126, in the orchard on the land once owned by



Norris H. Woodward in 1820. Mr. Gilbert set out most of the trees of this orchard now standing. In 1830, Mr. Gilbert built the house once owned by Joseph Warren. He died Nov. 10, 1867, aged 88 yrs. In 1832, Ephriam Dutton, Jr. moved the first house that Mr. Gilbert built, to the Brook Road, and it now stands on Andover St. later owned by John Law. This house was formerly known as the Tyler Weatherbee place.

The house formerly occupied by Isaac Wadleigh, No. 127, was built by Jenne Wilcox about 1798. The house on the Oscar Warren place, No. 128, was built by Asa Abbot about 1803. A little north of the Warren place, in the lot known as the Carpenter lot, Timothy Carpenter built a house, 129, in 1815. Mr. Carpenter built coal pits and burned charcoal on this place. About 1835, Mr. Carpenter was killed while hauling fence-poles with a pair of steers that were not handy. One of the poles caught in the ground, and the farther end came around with such force that the blow from it killed him instantly.

David Johnson built the first house on the John Reed place, No. 130, in 1830. This house burned in 1885, and was rebuilt by Fred Thomson in 1897. North of this place, and nearly west of the Bailey bridge on Black River, Ephraim Dutton, Jr., built a house in 1825. The cellar can be seen, but the land that he tilled is nearly all grown up to young growth of timber.

Going north on Pond street we come to another West Hill road on which two houses were built. L. Barrett built a house, No. 131, in 1807. This later was owned by Mr. Colburn. East of this J. Reed built a house, No. 132, in 1791.

Coming to the old Green Mountain Turnpike road, the first house was built by Alpha Wakefield, No. 133, in 1838. Later this was owned by Nathaniel Horton, father of Gilman Horton. Just beyond this was a house built by a Mr. Feltt. All that is now left is the cellar hole.

Continuing west, the next place was built by Thomas Bixby, No. 134, in 1790. Later this was owned by his son, Calvin Bixby. Farther up the road we come to where the

old toll gate stood. Next to this was a house built by Levi Lawrence, No. 135, in 1786.

Crossing over to the main highway, which was formerly the shun-pike road, below Buttermilk Falls Stephen Reed built a house, No. 136, in 1789, just below where the Gilbert mill stood. Continuing on L. Wilcox built a house, No. 137 in 1817. This was later owned by William Lawrence.

## EARLY ROADS

Since the time when man began building trails, paths and roads the building and repairs have never ceased, and no doubt never will. The first road to enter Ludlow crossed the northeastern end of the town and was the Crown Point Military Road. In early July, 1760 a New Hampshire regiment was ordered to Old No. 4 fort in Charlestown, N. H., with orders to build this road. From this fort they crossed the Connecticut River into Vermont by the way of Wentworth's Ferry; which was located about one mile north of the present Cheshire Toll Bridge.

They crossed the towns of Springfield and Weathersfield, then over Cavendish Hill to Twenty Mile Stream. At this point they built a camp which was twenty miles from Old No. 4. Hence the name Twenty Mile Stream. Then they went over North Hill, about where the Ellery Dix farm was later located, to the shore of Round Pond. Then north on the east side of the Lake to the head of Amherst Lake. They turned there and went west. A marker is located in this section. From there they continued west around the south slope of Saltash Mountain.

They were forty-four days in cutting the road to the foot of the Green Mountains. On this road mile posts were set up to mark the distance, of which, before reaching the mountains, there were twenty-six. Thence the route led over the mountains to Otter Creek then on to Crown Point. The baggage was conveyed in wagons the first twenty-six miles, thence on pack horses over the heights of land. This road was built and used before the first settlers came into the town of Ludlow in 1784.

The next road in Ludlow was laid out and surveyed,



No. ~~75~~

Cavendish, Jan. 4 1804.

THIS certifies, that *Salmon Dutton Esq*  
*of Cavendish in the County of Windsor*  
*State of Vermont*  
owns one Share, or one three-hundredth part of the  
stock in the Green Mountain Turnpike Company, it  
being No. ~~75~~ subject to the Bye-Laws and reg-  
ulations of the same. *Salmon Dutton* } President.

*Mary J. Barre* } Directors  
*Stephen Clark*  
*Abner Hedge*

Sept. 6, 1784 by Samuel Dutton and built from Cavendish  
The Ludlow gate was well up to the Western end of the  
no further roads until the town was organized. Then it  
was extended to Shrewsbury and Cuttingsville. It was  
known as Green Mountain turnpike and original owners  
were Fletcher Bros., Solomon Dutton and Christopher Web-  
ber of Cavendish; Later it was reorganized and a charter  
was given in the name of the Green Mountain Turnpike  
Co., and three hundred shares of stock issued. There were  
three toll gates between Duttonsville and Cuttingsville.  
The Ludlow gate was well up to the western end of the  
town and Stephen Wright was the gate keeper for many  
years.

Paying toll was unpopular and shun-pikes having been  
built, Dr. Alexander Campbell, who had purchased the  
property, gave it over to the towns through which it passed.

As the early settlers came into town and settled on the  
hills, trails and bridle-paths leading to the turn-pike were  
made into roads. These roads had to be made by man and  
beast as there were no road building machines in those  
days.

## LUDLOW AS A LAKE

The idea has been handed down by geologists, that that part of Ludlow occupied by the village, and down the Black River valley, taking in the sites of Proctorsville and Cavendish villages, was once the bed of a lake, the barrier that held back the waters being the rocks which form the walls of the well-known Cavendish gorge. It is believed by many people, that the waters of the lake broke through and wore the present channel through those massive rocks. It is also said that the table-land north of Ludlow village, where the Odd Fellows' Home is located, and the one north of Smithville, where agricultural fairs were once held, were thrown up by the action of the water. It seems probable that they were, for these plateaus are exactly on water line with each other, but to a close observer, it does not seem possible that the barriers of the waters were at Cavendish gorge, as the rocks forming it are many feet lower than the above mentioned places. If such a lake ever existed, it must have been of much larger dimensions than it has been described as being, and the barriers that restrained its waters must naturally have existed thousands of years ago, since the first settlers of Ludlow found yellow pines growing on what is now Academy hill, that were five and six feet in diameter. These trees could not have grown in the water, and the period of time that developed them, must have been hundreds of years. Imagination sometimes soars high in trying to search out the first forms of creation on this earth.

It is very evident that the Creator planned that parts of the earth's surface should be diversified with hills and valleys, and, by the law of gravitation, each valley is naturally provided with a water course, the hills draining their surplus waters to the lower levels. It seems more probable that the channels through these massive ledges were left open for watercourses at the time of creation, excepting where man has made small changes in opening new channels for the water. Every rivulet has its natural course from the summits of the highest mountains to the great basin of the ocean. Since the noxious vapors rising from the earth must be cleansed from the air to



keep it life-sustaining, so the waters of the ocean are filled with purifying salts, that they may cleanse the winds as they sweep over its surface. And as the winds agitate the waters to a comparatively slight depth, the tide brings in its aid to roll about the great body of water, keeping it alive to strain away the impurities of the earth, as the liver strains the impurities from the blood in the animal body.

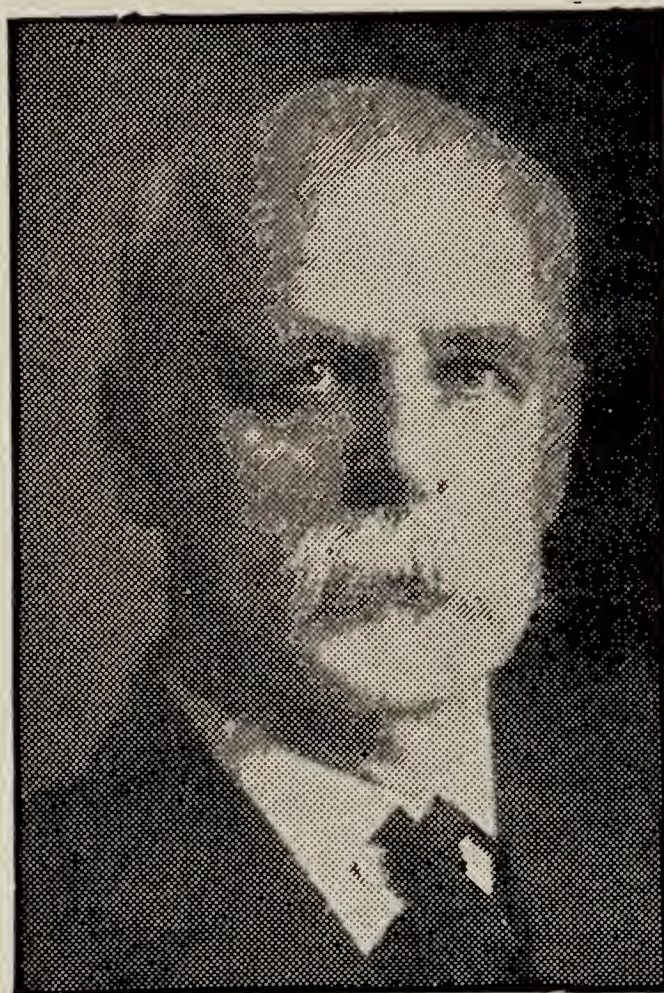
## FLETCHER MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Fletcher Memorial Library was built in 1900 by Allen M. Fletcher in memory of his father, Stoughton A. Fletcher. There are few men to whom Providence has granted the advantages of wealth and eminence which enable them to bequeathe to posterity so fitting and substantial a memorial of their ancestors.

The building stands on East Main street, a part of the site being the ground formerly occupied by the residence of the late Artemas Spaulding, and a part, the place where the barns of the Nathan P. Fletcher hotel stood. This hotel, in later years was known as the Scott tavern.

The library building is a one-story structure, the outside walls being of brick, with a base about three feet in height of paint granite, which was quarried in Milford, Mass. All the trimmings in the cornice, corner blocks, window-sills and caps, are granite of the same variety. The corner blocks are laid one above the other from the base to the cornice, projecting alternately into the adjacent walls, which gives a pleasing effect. The cornice on the front of the building which faces the north, and the door and window caps, were carved in elegant designs after the blocks of granite were put into place. In shape, the building approaches a cross the south wing, (the book room), extending southward from the main part, and the style of architecture resembles the Colonial. The architect, (Frehermer Page, 87 Milk street, Boston, Mass.) showed exquisite taste in designing the decorative finish for the inside work. At the main entrance, the door opens into a circular vestibule, the walls of which are finished with highly polished

Italian statuary marble. On the east side of the vestibule, winding stairs lead to the basement. The framework of the stairs is decorative iron work, and the steps are of marble like the finishing of the vestibule. Directly over



Allen M. Fletcher

the stairs is a bronze plate inscribed with the donor's name, in sweet memory to his father Stoughton A. Fletcher.

From the vestibule, one passes into the reception room, which surpasses any other part of the building in the artistic skill displayed in its decoration. The room is arched on four sides, with large, supporting pillars of statuary marble, while on the south side of the room is a beautiful marble counter connected with the book room. The floors of the vestibule and the reception room are of Mosaic stone of three colors, red, white, and green. The red and white are found in France, and the green is quarried in Ireland. The first cost is about forty cents per pound. The stone is worked into small pieces about three-fourths of an



inch square by one-fourth of an inch thick, and laid in Portland cement. A border about twenty inches wide is laid in straight lines at the margin of the floor. The mosaic is laid in circular form in the center of the floor, forming a medallion about six feet in diameter, from which the stones are laid in straight lines to the border, changing to curving lines in the corner to form small circles. The ceiling of this room is drawn four ways, forming a concave, beautifully finished with decorative work drawn in white, pink, rose, light orange, and sky blue.

At the right and left of the reception room are two large reading rooms, both finished with Georgia quartered oak, the floors being left in the natural wood, while the trimmings are stained of a dark hue. Each room is provided with a large brick fireplace, with chalk-stone fronts. These stones were quarried in France, about twenty miles north-west of Paris. These fronts have a large circle carved about the center. The one in the east room bears the coat of arms of the Fletcher family, inscribed below with sunken letters: "Fletcher", and the one in the west room has the seal of Vermont, and is inscribed with the state motto: "Freedom and Unity."

The ceiling in these rooms, and also in the book room, is of white, hard finish. The latter is finished in natural, quartered oak, but the floor is of Georgia pine. The shelving has capacity for holding about 11,000 volumes. On the west side of the book room is the Librarian's room, finished in quartered oak, and having a brick fire-place. The side walls are finished in drab colored hard finish. The windows throughout the building are of large size, of very clear glass, with arched tops. The cellar is large, and finished in cement. The building is heated by a large, modern Walker furnace.

Oil burner summer of 1927

The Fletcher Library will not only be a lasting tribute to the memory of a beloved father, but a monument to a name closely connected with the early history of the town, and a fountain of knowledge, from which, for years to come the eager minds may draw refreshment, and learn many lessons of good from the great and prac-

tical men whose thoughts are stored here for their use. The beautiful reading rooms of this library will offer a healthful attraction from the pool and billiard rooms, and even less pure resorts of the town. Long may it stand, a monument of good and generous purpose.

### **LUDLOW SAVINGS BANK AND TRUST CO.**

The Ludlow Savings Bank and Trust Company was organized in 1903, with William W. Stickney, president, Rees W. Davies, treasurer and cashier. The capital stock was \$50,000. At the present time, (1931), the bank's resources are about \$3,000,000. In 1900, Daniel Edwards became connected with the bank, and has been treasurer twenty-two years. Homer L. Skeels is now President.

The bank commenced business where the Cloverdale store is now located. They were in this place but two or three years, when they moved to where the telephone office is now located, in the old Ludlow hotel. In 1921, they purchased the old Armington store which was built by Andrew Pettigrew in 1836. They took down the building in the year of the purchase, and built the present bank building in the same year, 1921, at a cost of about \$18,000. It is a very substantial, fine Bank building.

### **CATTLE**

The cattle imported to the Plymouth colony by Governor Winslow, were brought from Devonshire, England, in the ship Charity, and landed in March, 1624. They were of the Devon breed. The bull died shortly after his arrival. The first cattle brought to Ludlow in 1783 and 1784 by James Whitney, Simeon Read, and Jesse and Josiah Fletcher, were descendants of these.

The first short-horn Durham bull was imported to this country in 1817, by Stephen Williams of Northboro, Mass., at a cost of \$1,000. He arrived Nov. 5, 1817, and was called Denton No. 2. He was kept in Northboro till 1827, when Mr. Williams gave him to Dr. E. Holmes of Gardiner, Me.



He was kept one season there, and two seasons at Livermore. He then was carried to Starks, Somerset Co., Me. where he died of old age in April, 1830. The descendants of this animal have been kept in existence in Maine up to this time.

In no branch of agriculture has there been greater improvement made than in the breeding of cattle. In 1710, the average weight of fat cattle in the Liverpool market was only three hundred and seventy pounds. It is gratifying to note at the beginning of the twentieth century, that science in cattle-breeding in the past two hundred years, has surpassed any other period in the history of the world. Calves are produced now, that, at the age of three months, weigh more than the four year old steer did two hundred years ago. In 1862, John Sanderson of Bernardston, Mass. had an ox of his own raising, that, at the age of five years, weighed 3,851 pounds. Some have been raised in New England to exceed the above weight.

## WILD ANIMALS

When Ludlow was first settled, wild beasts were quite numerous, such as the common black bear, the panther, and the gray wolf. The latter was not so plentiful as in some other parts of the state. The settlers on North Hill at first had to built log pens, and drive their cattle and sheep into them at night for protection from the wolves. Deer were common then, and were not protected by state laws. They were taken for the meat supply. Only one moose was ever seen in town, and that one was seen by Ephraim Warren, Sr. in 1802, while the animal was drinking from the Jesse Fletcher spring, near the Cavendish line. The moose must have strayed from his mates, as he was never seen again. Panthers were plenty, but did no damage excepting to sheep. The sheep-folds had to be watched much of the time. Otters, also, were occasionally seen along the banks of Black River. It is said that a few beavers were seen by the first settlers on the shores of Rescue Lake, but they, like the otter, gradually disappeared. At the present time,

wild animals have nearly all gone, and only at long intervals is a bear, panther, or lynx, heard from or seen.

Up to 1866, wild pigeons were very numerous in these parts, but at that time they all disappeared at once. In the early part of the nineteenth century, they were so plenty that they would destroy whole fields of wheat, the number in some flocks reaching into the thousands. Frequently, when they lighted in the trees, their weight would bend the branches to the ground. One charge fired from a shotgun into a flock of them would often kill two or three dozen of them, and as they were considered very palatable eating, many ways were devised by the settlers for capturing them in large numbers, such as spreading nets for them, or knocking them from their roosts by torch-light.

## DAIRYING

Many of the first settlers and their descendants down to 1875, made money in the manufacture of butter and cheese at home. They had more milk left to feed the calves and pigs and therefore more cattle than now, made more pork, and had butter, cheese, beef and pork to sell off in the fall to bring in money where with to make improvements on their buildings and farms. At the present time the milk must be carried to the cheese factory that work may be made easier at home, and but little work is done in the dairy line. The cheese maker gets all the profit there is in the milk. Mr. Willard Johnson paid thirteen thousand dollars for his farm east of the village later known as the Geo. Johnson farm. We once heard Mr. Johnson's first wife say that she raised the value paid for the farm on her milk skimmer. They stuck persistently to dairying, and reaped their reward. During the past hundred years, the price of butter has ranged from six to fifty cents per pound, reaching its highest figure during the war and immediately after it, from 1863 to 1868. Cooley creameries were unknown to the first butter makers in Ludlow. The milk was set in large earthen pans, and was kept by many in the cellar, or underground milk rooms in summer.



The temperature being cool, the cream was all separated from the milk. The churn used was called a dash churn. This was a tall, stone jar, or a tall firkin, with a wooden lid having a hole through the center about an inch in diameter. The dash was a long round stick having at the bottom either four small floats, or a circular piece of wood, perforated in several places. After the cream was put into the churn, the dash was set in and the lid slipped down in place, over the handle. The handle was then worked up and down till the cream became butter.

When more stock was kept on the farm, the tillage land and pastures were kept in a better state of production, and the farms were more remunerative to the owners, than now, when so many new methods are being put in practice by the experimental stations, and agricultural colleges. Some of the new methods are too expensive for the farmer in moderate circumstances to indulge, and derive any profit. The only sure way to make farming pay, is for the farmer to pull off his coat, and guide the plow, or drive the team with an eye to strict economy, both in outgo and time.

## SHEEP

With the early settlers in Ludlow, as in Vermont generally, sheep and wool at different times have been a source of profit, giving a return to the farmer for his labor. But wool has always proved to be one of the first staples in raw material to rise and fall in price with the fluctuations of demand in the markets of the world. While this country was engaged in the war of 1812 with England, the scarcity of wool, and the desire for speculation, caused the price to rise to two dollars and a half per pound. In 1815, the price dropped to ten cents per pound, and sheep sold at a dollar per head. So prices continued to rise and fall in turn, from ten cents to forty cents until the war of the Rebellion, when wool reached the phenomenal price of a dollar and five cents per pound in 1866 and 1867, and stock Merino rams sold at \$1,000 each. But the lack of demand again brought prices down to water-line, and remained for sev-

eral years at about forty cents per pound for domestic wool, and so continued until the Wilson tariff law was introduced and took effect in 1894 which practically unlocked and opened our gates free to the markets of the world. This foolish act on the part of the American people brought all the wool producers of the world into free and unlimited competition with our own producers. The consequence is, that wool again sold at ten and twelve cents per pound and our farmers got no profit from this industry. Many woolen mills in this country stood idle and thousands of people were out of work, and all for the want of protection to the American producer and manufacturer. The difference in the political views of the two chief parties, bring on many hardships to the people of the nation. The Republican party, when in power, work for protection, and build barriers against other nations, while the Democratic party work to destroy the fruits of the labors of their rivals in power, and open our markets free to the rest of the world, or at least to those countries where the fundamental principal of Democracy first originated in the form of Toryism. The above may seem to some as being out of the line of a town history, but as Ludlow has her members of both parties, they have helped lay the foundation of the above principles.

## MAPLE SUGAR

It is said that the Indians were the first race of mankind to discover that sugar could be manufactured from maple sap. Having no smooth cutting tools with which to tap trees, they would dig up a small root of the maple break off the end of the root, and from this the sap would flow freely. They manufactured sap pails of white birch bark. These were made funnel shaped, the bottom being bent up and pinned with a thorn. The sap was boiled into syrup in pails of green bark, swinging high enough above the fire to be beyond the reach of the flames. When the Pilgrims came, they made improvement on these methods, and tapped the trees with an axe by cutting a small notch



in the tree, at a sharp angle. A chip or shingle was then placed at the base of the notch, and by this the sap was conducted into wooden troughs made from small bass wood or pine logs eight or ten inches in diameter, and about three feet long. These were split in halves, and dug out with an adze. They were bungling vessels, but remained in use until about 1840, when wooden buckets were used. About 1850 tin sap buckets were used somewhat, but they were so expensive that but few farmers could afford to use them. Since the opening up of the American tin mines, tin has nearly superceeded wood for sap buckets, and many of them are manufactured with covers.

In olden times it was thought that maple trees must be tapped with one or one and a half inch augers to get the sap from the trees. The size of the tapping bit has been gradually reduced in size, and it is now proved that the maple will give up its store of sap as freely and quickly if tapped with a quarter inch bit as when tapped with the old fashioned auger, and the injury to the tree from admitting air to the fibre of the wood is much less.

The white men at first boiled the sap in large cast-iron kettles hung in the woods. These gave way to sheet iron sugaring pans, set upon arches as they were called. These were used for many years, the next improvement being the use of galvanized iron for the manufacture of the pans, and the use of heaters. These last were constructed with deep pockets or divisions in which the sap was quickly heated to the boiling point, and so rose to spouts by which it run into the pans. These methods have nearly all been superceeded by improved evaporators, and the quality of the sugar has been very much improved. By the old method of sugaring the product averaged from sixty to sixty-five percent of pure sugar, the remaining thirty-five of forty percent being made up of boiled leaves, cinders, ashes, etc. By the improved methods the sugar scales from ninety-five to ninety-eight per cent pure.

Maple sugar was about all the sweetening the pioneers of Ludlow had to use, with the exception perhaps of a few gallons each year of black West India molasses. The granulated and pulverized white sugar of the present time were unknown to them.

## BUSINESS MEN

Adams Warren, son of Peter and Lucy (Gibson) Adams, was born in Andover, Vt., August 28, 1815. He attended only the common schools of his native town. He married Lucy Coleman, June 27, 1837. There were four children by this marriage. Lowell P., Lucy Jane, Lizzie and Norris who died young.

Mr. Adams engaged in the mercantile business on East Hill in Andover. At that time he ran teams to Boston, loading them for the city with farm products, and for the return trip with merchandise. In 1840 he moved to Ludlow, where he bought and handled real estate quite extensively, and built several buildings in the village. He owned and conducted the Ludlow House for several years, and was a most efficient and hospitable landlord, much liked by the travelling public. Mr. Adams also traded extensively in cattle. He died October 28, 1875

Agan, Frank W. son of John and Amanta (Hendry) Agan, was born in Plymouth, Vt., December 18, 1868. He attended the common schools and Black River Academy. June 10, 1896, he married Cora A. daughter of the late Maj. Darius Safford of Morrisville, Vt. She died Aug. 26, 1899. She was a lady of unusual gifts and beloved by all who knew her. In 1897, Mr. Agan commenced the manufacture of shoddy, the first industry of the kind ever established in Ludlow. On June 28, 1909 he married Maria Foster of Shawomet Beach, R. I. He died on May 13, 1934.

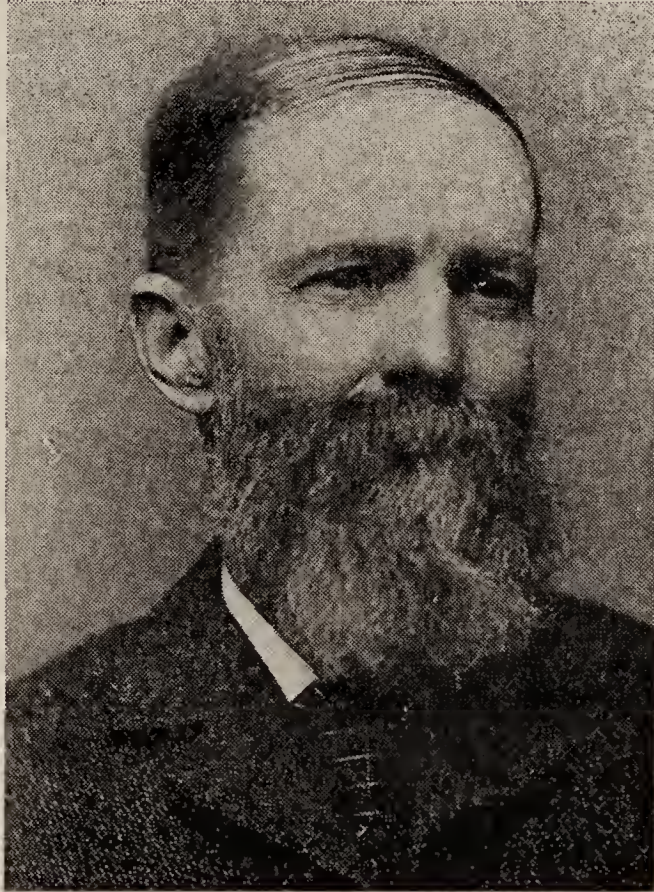
Archibald, James J., son of John J. and Addie Archibald, was born Dec. 15, 1878, at Hinsdale, N. H. He graduated from high school, married Mae Coleman Sept. 30, 1901, and has three children; Kenneth R., born in June 1902. Ruth M., born June 7, 1904, Frances E., born March 22, 1907.

Mr. Archibald was in the clothing business for over thirty years. In August, 1909, he purchased the Hammond Block, and built his home in 1927.

Armington, George L., son of Samuel L. Armington, was born in Ludlow, April 2, 1838. He graduated from Black River Academy in 1855, and in 1863, married Anna Kimball of Townsend, Vt. They had four children, Winnie,



Jessie, Gertrude and May. Mr. Armington was engaged in the mercantile business in Ludlow from his majority. During his long business career, he never held any town office, and contrary to the custom of most of the merchants, was

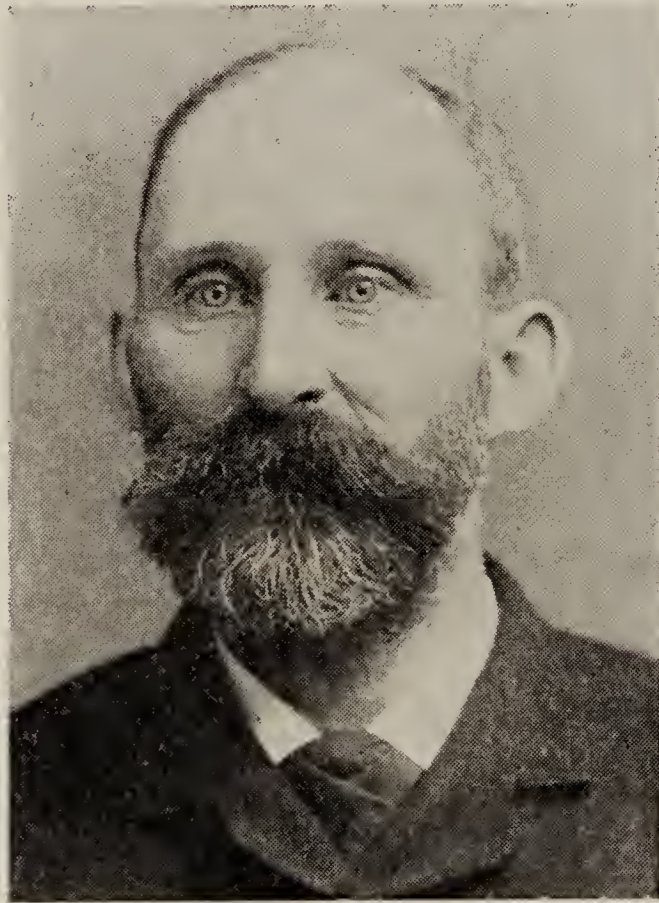


George L. Armington

never in New York City. He was a man of more than ordinary intelligence and ability, but believed that there was neither honor nor pleasure in holding public office. He died October 13, 1914.

Barrett, John son of Levi Barrett, was born in Hartland, Vt., Jan 28, 1836. He came to Ludlow in January, 1845, and worked on a farm till he was twenty-one years of age. He then went to Illinois, where he remained three years, then returned to Burlington, where he engaged in the clothing business for a year. In March 1862, he enlisted as a private in Co. I, second regiment of Vt. volunteer infantry. He served three years and was discharged in April 1865, when he returned to Ludlow, Jan. 23, 1866, he married Martha P. Simonds, and the same year opened

a restaurant on Main street where the Sherman block stands, and was there four years. He then went into the crockery and grocery business, in which he was engaged for many years. He had one child, Edna J., who was born



John Barrett

Apr. 3, 1874. Mrs. Barrett died Apr. 11, 1918, and Mr. Barrett Sept. 25, 1925.

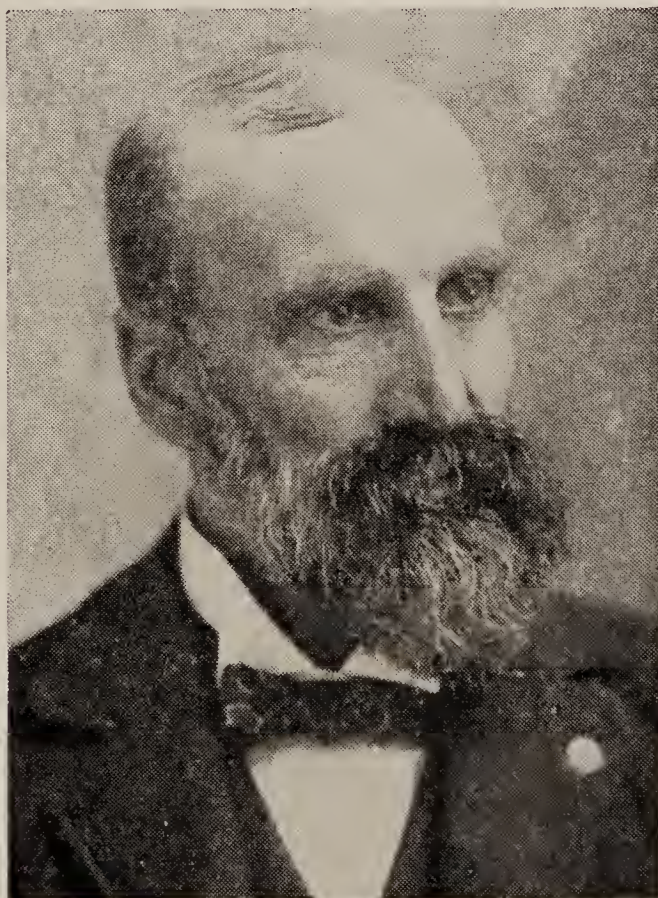
Ballard, John F. son of Darwin Ballard, was born in North Dorset, Sept. 6, 1862. He attended the common schools of his native town, and Black River Academy. Oct. 25, 1893, he married Addie Hammond of Ludlow. He entered the boot and shoe business, Apr. 7, 1896. He died Jan. 23, 1940.

Ball, William D., eldest son of Henry W. and Mary (Dunham) Ball, was born in Dorchester, Mass., Aug. 28, 1843. He learned the tanner's and currier's trade of his father. He attended the local schools and Weston Academy.

Mr. Ball followed his trade till Oct. 23, 1862, when he enlisted from Weston, Vt., into Co. C., Sixteenth Vt. reg-



iment. He was promoted to a corporal's rank and was mustered out of the service, Aug. 10, 1863. He re-enlisted from Londonderry Mar. 7, 1865, for three years but was discharged May 12, 1865, peace being proclaimed. Mr. Ball



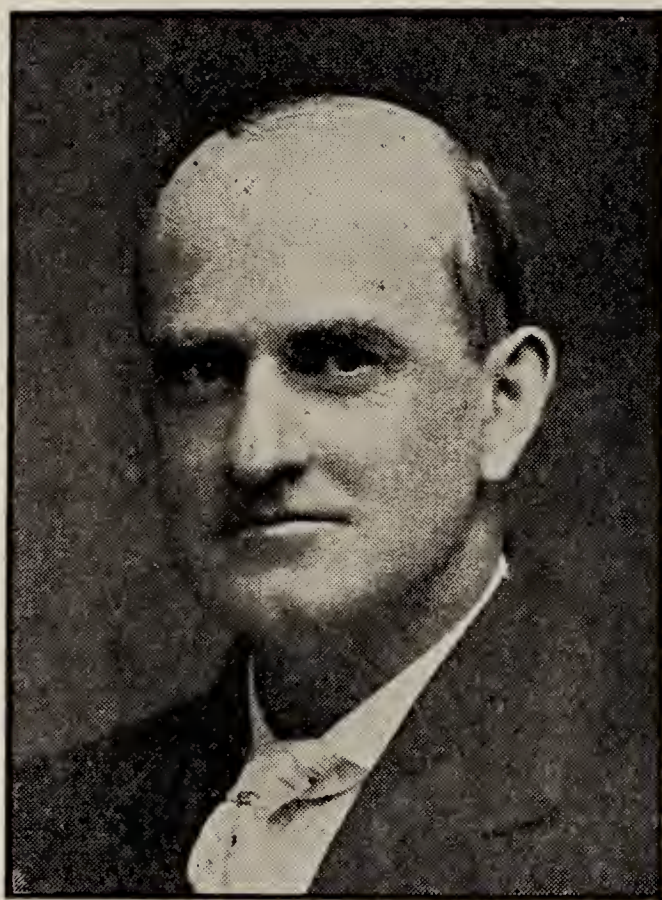
William D. Ball

then attended Langley's Commercial College at Rutland, Vt., and after completing his course of studies, entered the employ of Robbins & Marsh at Chester, Vt., and remained there five years. He then engaged in business in Bellows Falls, Vt. He came to Ludlow in 1871, and engaged in the hardware trade for several years. Later he was in the sleigh, carriage and wagon business.

Mr. Ball married for his first wife, Agnes J. White, of Weston, who died in 1876. He married for his second wife, Eva E. Dorval of Ludlow. Three children have been born to them of which two died young. The surviving child, Allen D. was born July 22, 1882. Mr. Ball held the office of Justice of the Peace for several years. He died on Oct. 26, 1912.

Bridges, George S., son of John Bridges, was born in

Bridgewater, Vt., July 19, 1844. He attended only the common schools. He served his country in the war of the Rebellion. In July 1863, he married Hattie Tilden of Bridgewater, Vt., and had one child by this marriage, May, who was born Apr. 30, 1865. He married Ellen M. Washburn of Woodstock, Vt., on March 8, 1866. By this marriage, a daughter Lena was born, July 5, 1870. She married Dr.



Henry T. Brown

H. L. Stickney, of Springfield, Vt. Mr. Bridges came to Ludlow in 1883 and opened a restaurant and small grocery which he carried on several years. He died on October 17, 1922.

Brown, Henry T. son of James S. Brown, was born in Plymouth, Vt., July 14, 1868. He attended the common schools of that town, and Black River Academy. May 21, 1890, he married Anna M. Gould of Ludlow, and has one child, Rae Marguerite, born Sept. 28, 1895. For many years he was in the hardware business under the name of Howard & Brown. Since his retirement he has spent his winters in Florida.



Bryant, William N. M. D. was born in Weston, Vt., in 1851. After attending the common schools, he entered the Vermont Methodist Seminary, at Montpelier, one of its first students. While there he began the study of medicine with Dr. D. G. Kemp. Later he entered Harvard Medical School, but finished his course in the medical department of the University of Vermont. Immediately after graduating in 1873, he located his practice in medicine in Northfield, Vt. In the fall of 1879, he removed to Chester, Vt., where he administered relief to the sick and suffering for eight years. In 1887, he came to Ludlow, where he had a large practice. He was married in 1871, to Miss Angelia Holbrook of Lemington, Vt. They had two children, Eva May, wife of Eben J. Fullam, and William LeRoy who died April 25, 1931.

Dr. Bryant was a Mason, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also a member of several medical societies. He was a most entertaining public speaker, and his skill and earnestness in his profession made him a physician of wide repute. He was a member of the state board of health many years. He was beloved by the townspeople. He died July 10, 1929.

Coolidge, Daniel F. M. D., was born in Plymouth, Vt. December 23, 1839.

He was a volunteer in the Civil War, was wounded, and taken prisoner to Libby Prison. After his exchange to a northern hospital, he was discharged from the army because of the wound.

Upon completion of his studies in the University of Vermont and Bellevue Medical, New York, he opened an office in Ludlow. He was respected by his colleagues for skill in diagnosis. After some years, ill health compelled him to give up active practice, his work then being confined to the drug store on Main street. This store continued under his name for about seventy-five years.

Dr. Coolidge was active in the Congregational Church, and was greatly esteemed by all who knew him for his integrity of character. He died Sept. 17, 1911.

Sept. 4, 1866, he married Viola A. Marsh of Plymouth. They had two sons, Bernard and Leon and three daughters, Ethel, Mary and Christel.

Mrs. Cooledge assisted in the drug store and was the first woman pharmacist registered in the State of Vermont. After her husband's death until her own death on June 6, 1934, she was manager of the store.

Davies, Rees W., son of Griffith R. and Jane Williams Davies, was born in Middle Granville, N. Y., Sept. 16, 1865. His parents came to this country from Caernarfonshire, Wales, in 1857 and settled in Middle Granville, where they resided for the remainder of their lives.

Mr. Davies attended the village school until twelve years of age, then worked in the slate quarries. Later, he attended the village school two winters, resuming the quarry duties in the summer. Attendance at the Packard School, N. Y. City for nearly a year, completed his school days.

In December 1890, he entered the National Bank of Granville, as an apprentice, and for the next four months received instruction from that excellent and successful banker, President D. D. Woodard. April 1891, found him in Kansas City, Mo. with the Guarantee Loan and Trust Co., and later, at the First National Bank, Downs, Kansas, both of which institutions were established and managed by Mr. John Hall, Fort Ann, N. Y.

Early in 1893, Mr. Davies returned east, and soon afterward, was called to Ludlow to become Treasurer of the Ludlow Savings Bank & Trust Co., then in process of organization. He also became a Director of the Institution, succeeding the late Hon. Henry A. Fletcher. He was a member of the M. E. church, Black River Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Ludlow.

September 16, 1899, he was married to Edna Fletcher, daughter of Hazen Fletcher, and Rena Warren Fletcher, of Ludlow, and had two children, Rachel Fletcher, born June 29, 1902, and Griffith Richard, born March 31, 1905.

Dennett, John Alonzo, son of John Dennett, was born in Ludlow, Jan. 9, 1841, and married Sarah Elizabeth Buck of Pittsford, Vt., Nov. 7, 1867. They had one daughter, Ada Amanda, born Oct. 8, 1870. Mr. Dennett attended the district schools of the village and Black River Academy. In 1858 he entered the store of L. G. Hammond as clerk, and remained there seven and one half years. He then engaged



as a commercial traveler for Glazier, Masean & Co. of Boston, Mass. This occupation he followed for three and a half years, and then, in partnership with Martin H. Taylor opened a dry goods store in Ludlow, in 1869, and remained in this till 1877. At this time he purchased his partner's interest in the business and continued alone until 1900, when he retired from business. He became one of Ludlow's most popular merchants. He died Dec. 28, 1904.

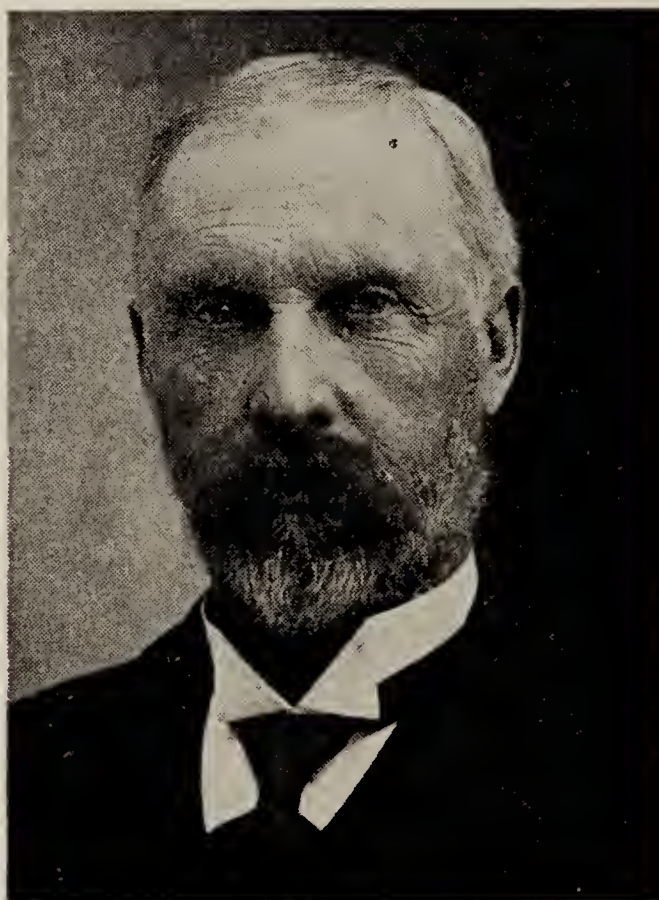


Eben C. Ford

Ford, Eben C. son of Warren L. Ford, was born at Granville, Vt., Dec. 11, 1861. He attended the common schools of that town, and the agricultural school at Dartmouth College for one year. He married Mattie D. Russell of Cavendish Vt., Jan. 13, 1887 and had two children. Harold, born July 7, 1889, and Russell, born July 4, 1897. Mr. Ford came to Ludlow Apr. 3, 1881, and entered the employment of John A. Dennett, with whom he remained fifteen years. He commenced business for himself Apr. 1, 1896.

He had a very successful dry goods store for several years. He died August 27, 1948.

Fullam, Leighton G. son of Granville Fullam was born in Ludlow, Oct. 5, 1841. He married Addie Slack of Plymouth, Vt., March 15, 1865 and had three sons; Ernest L. born May 7, 1867, Herman G., born Oct. 28, 1868, and



Leighton G. Fullam

Eben J. born March 20, 1871. Mr. Fullam attended common schools in town, and Black River Academy. He held several town offices and had good business capabilities. His chair manufacturing business is described in another part of the history. Mr. Fullam died on May 10, 1926.

Fullam, Sewell, son of Sewell and Mehitable (Harris) Fullam, was born in Cavendish, Vt., Apr. 7, 1799. His early life was spent in his native town, and in Reading, Vt. He had the advantages of only the common schools, and at an early age, learned the carpenter's trade. In this occupation, he proved himself a fine workman for those early days. Having a great fondness for books, and being possessed of a good memory he read much, and there-



by gained a practical education which was a great advantage to him in his after life. He borrowed law books of Judge Reuben Washburn, and laid the foundation of his legal education, and soon became a great debater. Apr. 16, 1828, he removed to Ludlow, where he worked at his trade devoting part of his time to legal business until 1836, when he was admitted to the Windsor county bar, and followed his profession until his death Nov. 26, 1876. Mr. Fullam married Eunice Howe Goddard of Reading, Vt., Nov. 17, 1825, by which marriage there were five children; Elizabeth G., wife of E. J. Whitcomb of Ludlow, Candace L., who married Rev. J. O. Skinner, a Universalist minister, Volney S. who followed his father's profession with marked ability, Benoni B., and Eunice Victoria, wife of Marcus A. Spaulding.

Gill, James Seel, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Seel Gill, was born in Leeds, Yorkshire, England, Nov. 26, 1828. He was the eldest child in a family of six sons. His father was a man of wealth, his business being that of master dyer, but, in consequence of the financial panic of 1837, he, like thousands of others in this and other countries, lost his property, and in 1844, he removed with his family to the United States, settling in Northampton, Mass.

James S. attended a private school in England. About three years after his father's failure, he commenced to learn the dyer's trade and at the age of seventeen, took charge of the dye-house at the Thomas Bottomly Mills at Leicester, Mass. He was afterward employed by James Roy & Co., of West Troy, N.Y.C. L. Harding & Co., of Oxford, Mass., and Edward Harris of Woonsocket, R. I. On account of his health, he then engaged in mercantile business in Leicester and Holliston, Mass. In this and other enterprises he continued until 1863, when he again engaged with C. L. Harding & Co., who were at that time running the Burlington Woolen mills at Winooski, Vt.

In 1868, he became interested in the Ludlow Woolen Mills, and was connected with these works for thirty years. In 1849, he married Miss Rachel Wood. There were no children to continue their name. They had an adopted daughter, Florence Harding and at her death they gave the library in her memory at the Congregational church.

Mr. Gill was a man of great business capabilities, and his business in Ludlow did much to bring prosperity to the town. Both he and Mrs. Gill were liberal donors to worthy objects, they gave the Odd Fellows Home to the town. Mr. Gill died Mar. 14, 1900, at East Cambridge, Mass.

Gill, James S. was born in Ludlow, May 27 1876. He was the son of Samuel and Hannah Gill. He attended the public schools and Black River Academy, graduating in 1894. He graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and later attended the Philadelphia Textile school. He was connected with the Ludlow Woolen Mills and organized the Jewell Brook Mill in 1906, of which he was a successful manager for over 39 years. Besides managing this he was president of the Vermont Woolen Mills, Inc. in Ludlow and the Medway Mills, Inc., of West Medway, Mass. Mr. Gill was interested in the youth of the town and gave generously to their projects. He served on the committee when the new school was built and gave generously to the work. The assembly room was named in his honor.

He was an accomplished musician and was a member of the Ludlow band for years. He was a village trustee and a member of Black River Lodge, F and A. M. In 1940, he married Catherine Hughes of Texas. He died suddenly June 23, 1945.

Goddard, Martin H. son of Henry W. and Lucina (Babbit) Goddard, was born in Londonderry, Vt., Feb. 26, 1844. He spent his early life on his father's farm, and attended the common schools of his native town. He entered Black River Academy in 1863, graduating in 1867. While attending school, he studied law with Hon. Wm. H. Walker, and was admitted to the Windsor county bar in 1869. He followed his profession till his death, Mar. 14, 1891. He was successful not only in his profession, in which he was one of the foremost men of his time.

Mr. Goddard was married July 1, 1868 to Emma Wilder of Ludlow, and by this marriage had one son, Rev. Harry M. Goddard. Mrs. Goddard died Jan. 15, 1884, and Mr. Goddard was again married to Agnes A. Henderson of



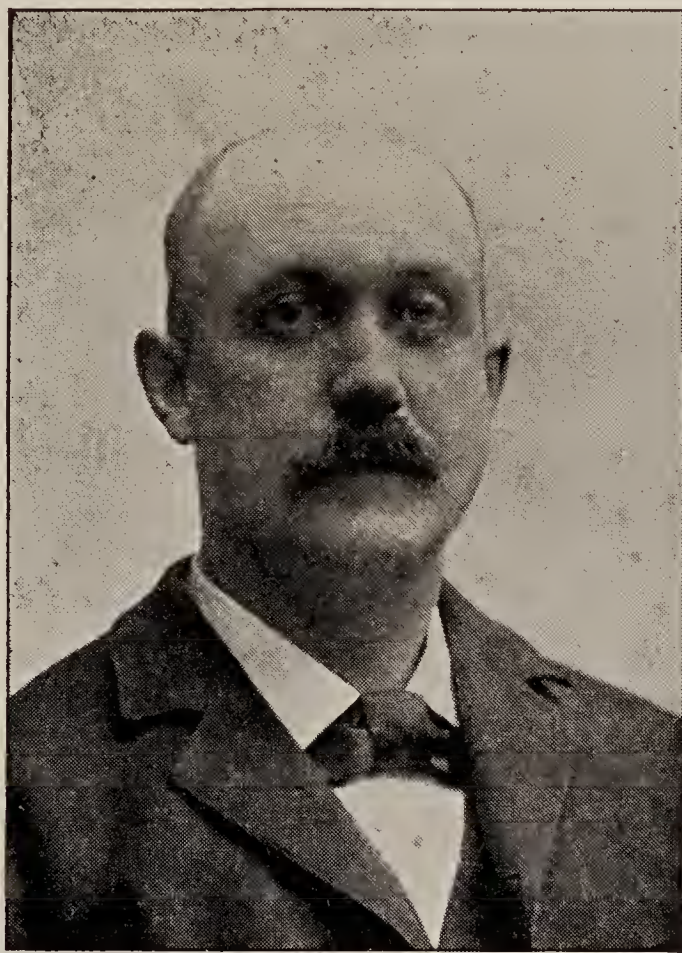
Salisbury, Vt., July 24, 1884. By this marriage there were three children, Emma A., Agnes B. and Silas C.

Goddard, Ira son of Henry W. and Lucina Babbitt Goddard was born in Londonderry, Vt. about 1848. He was a brother of Martin H. Goddard. His early life was spent on his father's farm and he attended the public schools. He married Sarah Farnham of Jamacia, Vt. in 1871. After which he bought a farm and took care of his grand-parents. There were two sons, Percy N. and Harry E.

He lived several years in Benson, Vt., where he ran a stage route to Fair Haven, Vt. He came to Ludlow about 1879 where he conducted a very successful job teaming line. With his Herculean frame he became a local landmark.

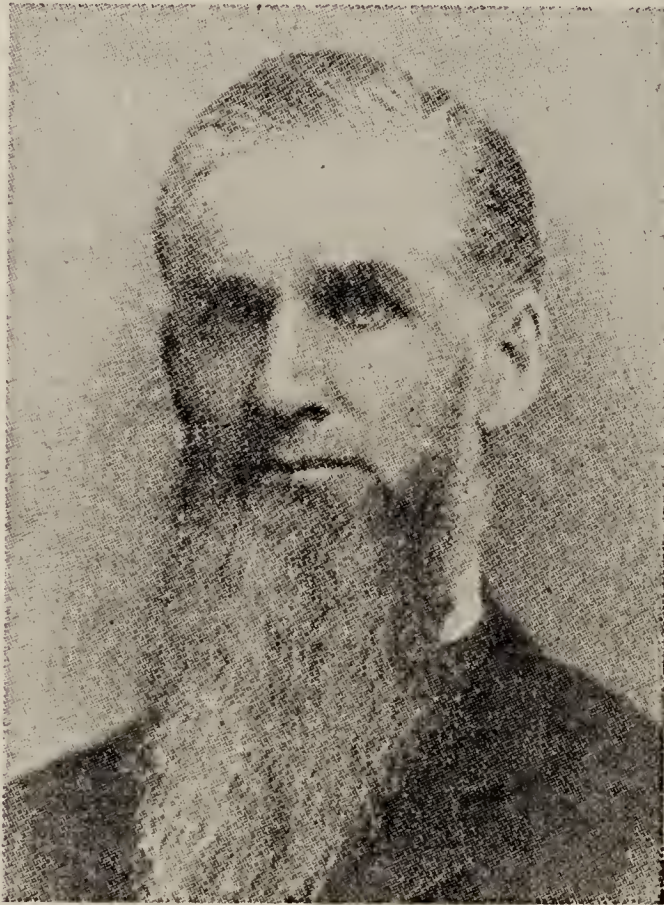
He was appointed Post-master under President Cleveland in 1887, and was assisted in the office by his son Percy. He was one of the village trustees. Mr. Goddard and his family were members of the Congregational church.

Goddard, Charles W. was born in Reading, Vt. on June



Charles W. Goddard

13, 1858. At fifteen years of age he left home and began his mercantile career in Chester. After several years he started a meat and mercantile business in Proctorsville. Later he went to Pennsylvania and engaged in cheese and commission business. In 1879 he came to Ludlow and entered the meat business.



Lowell G. Hammond

He branched out into the livery business which he carried on successfully for fifteen years. At one time he conducted the stables at both hotels and one at Tyson. In the 90's he built the Riverside hotel.

He became an extensive cattle dealer, buying them in Canada and shipping by carload to Vermont. He became widely known. He also shipped horses mostly from Boston. At one time he had his meat business in the basement of the Riverside hotel. He held town offices. He died in Sept. 9, 1919.

Hammond, Lowell G., son of Jedediah Hammond, was born in Mount Holly, Feb. 17, 1824. He attended only the district schools of his native town. Aug. 19, 1847, he mar-



ried Mariette Guernsey of Shrewsbury. They had three children, Leonora M., born June 13, 1850, Norris G. born Feb. 14, 1858, and Addie W. born May 17, 1860.

Mr. Hammond came to Ludlow in 1847, and opened a store in the basement of the brick house near Vail's garage. In 1849, he removed his business to the basement of the block on the corner of Main and Depot street now known as the Gill block, and remained there until Apr. 1, 1850, when he bought out the store and business of D. L. Greene and Horace Adams. The store stood on the site of the present Hammond block, and was burned May 8, 1871. He then built the present block. For more than half a century, Mr. Hammond followed the grocery and dry goods business in Ludlow, keeping steadily on with his calling while more than seven-eighths of the population passed on from this life. He died May 6, 1901.

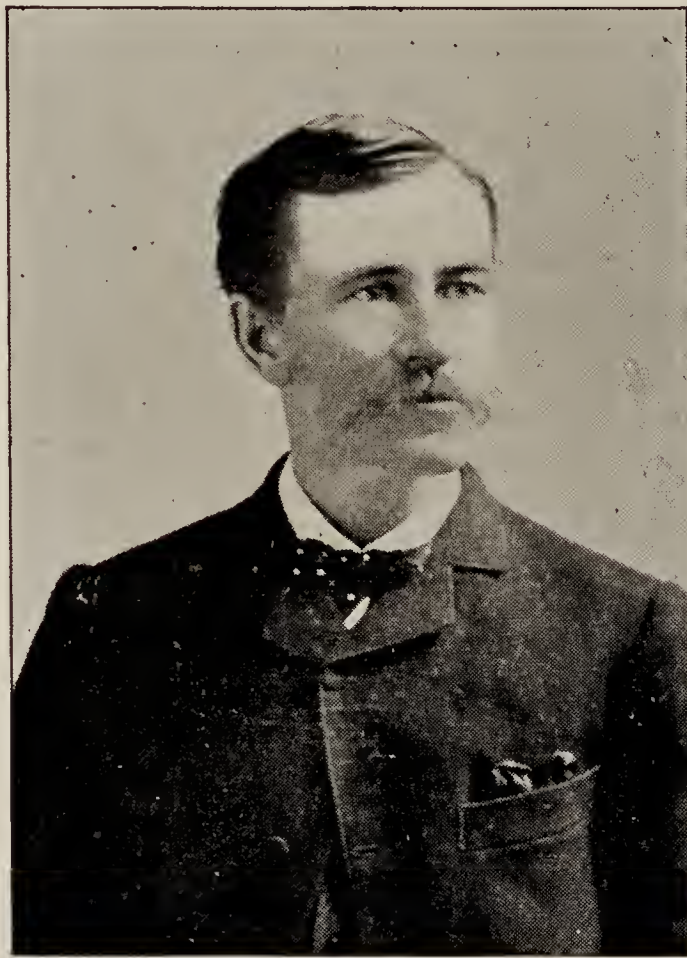
Hathorn, Col. Ransom E. son of Eleazer Hathorn was born in Londonderry, Vt., on Nov. 3, 1843. He was working



Ransom E. Hathorn

with his father in the harness trade when he enlisted in Co. G., Eleventh Vt. regiment serving three years and then being discharged, this will be found in another part of this history. He came to Ludlow in 1865 and engaged with Geo. E. Walker in the harness and collar business. In 1878 he became partner, as Walker & Hathorn. At Mr. Walker's death in '79 he bought his half interest in the harness business, about fifteen years after he also bought the collar business. This was the only business of its kind in the state. He was a very successful business man. He died on Jan. 9, 1931.

Hill, Sidney A. son of Isaac L. Hill, was born in Mt. Holly, March 12, 1861, attended the common schools of his native town, and was married Jan. 6, 1884, to Ida Wheeler of Perkinsville, Vt. They had two children, Maybelle born July 14, 1888, and Frank, born Nov. 9, 1885, died Jan. 22, 1892. Mr. Hill came to Ludlow Aug. 23, 1893, and engaged in the grocery and meat business. He died July 31, 1926.



Charles H. Howard



Howard, Charles H., son of Lewis Howard, was born in Andover, Vt., May 29, 1850. He attended only the common district schools. Nov. 30, 1877, he married Mary A. Rawson of Walpole, N. H. and had one son, Henry, born Oct. 7, 1878, who graduated from Black River Academy in 1896.

Mr. Howard came to Ludlow in February 1876, and engaged in the furniture business with the firm name of Howard & Hall. Later he bought out his partner's interest, and continued the business alone. He was one of the best financiers of the town, upright in his dealings, his integrity made many friends for him among those who had business relationships with him. He died Apr. 26, 1923.



Lester C. Howe

Howe, Lester C., son of Alva and Julia Miles Howe, was born in Chester, Vt., Feb. 2, 1850. He married Fannie E. Ballard of Dorset, Vt., July 24, 1870. He entered the employment of Walker & Howe as a horse collar maker. Later, he bought the collar business, and followed it till 1890. He was appointed deputy sheriff by S. W. Stimpson

in 1875, and in 1892, was elected sheriff of Windsor county by acclamation, and had the largest vote ever given any candidate for that office in this county. He held office continuously in Ludlow for twenty-eight years, and up to 1900 had been present at the Windsor county court at Woodstock forty-nine terms. He was also constable and tax-collector for the town of Ludlow for nineteen years and for several years was engaged in the livery stable business. Mr. Howe belonged to the Masons, Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and Knights of Pythias. He died Feb. 27, 1904.

Howe, Elwin A. was born in Londonderry Sept. 18, 1843, son of Alva and Julia Ann Miles Howe. His early life was spent on his father's farm in Weston. He was educated in the common schools of his town and at Chester and West River Academies. He enlisted in the Civil war July 30, 1862. He served as private for three years, was promoted to Corporal Jan. 28, 1864. He was commissioned first lieutenant of Co. I 108th U. S. colored infantry, July 10, 1864; was commissioned captain Jan. 9, 1866, when transferred to Co. E. 108th U. S. colored infantry and honorably discharged as captain, March 21, 1866 at Vicksburg, Miss. He was assigned to duty the last of May 1865 on the staff mustering out Illinois troops, rejoining his regiment at Columbus, Miss. in Jan. 1866.

Capt. Howe came to Ludlow in 1869 and for three years was engaged in the harness and collar business with his brother-in-law, Geo. E. Walker. He then became business manager and superintendant for the Ludlow Toy Manufacturing Co. In 1878 and again in 1880 he represented Ludlow in the House of Representatives and 4 years later as member of the senate. He served as moderator at town-meetings for more than 25 years. He was water commissioner for 32 years. He served as Post-master about 21 years. Capt. Howe was a Mason, having served as Master of Black River Lodge. For many years he conducted a thriving coal and wood business. Capt. Howe married Lydia Jane Walker and nine children were born of this union. Eugene E., Henry E. Ella J., Hattie I., Alice M., George W., William H., Donald and Alva. He died Aug. 20, 1929.

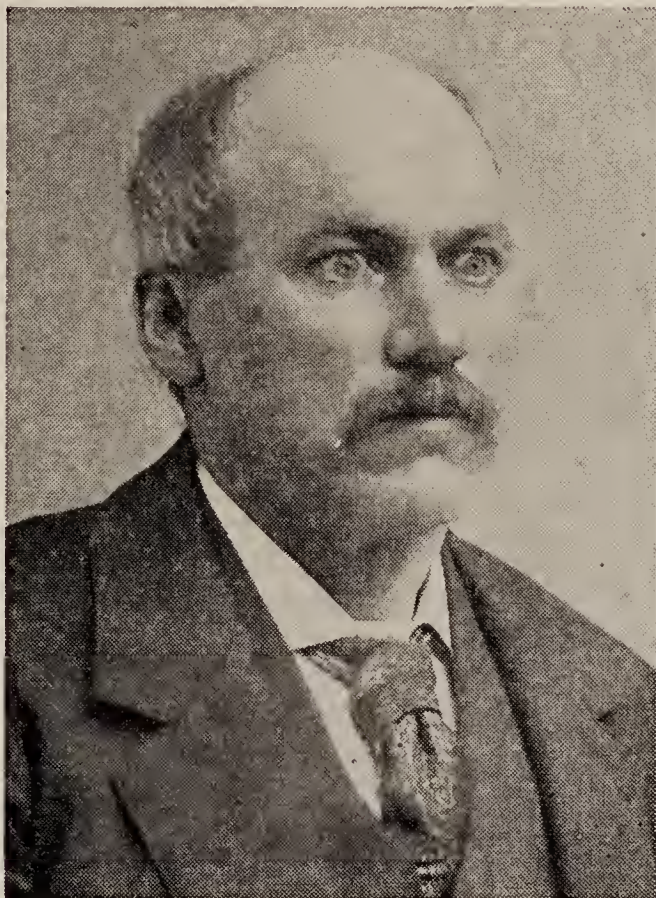
Howard, Frank, son of William Wallace Howard, was born in Plymouth, Vt., Jan. 30, 1856. He attended the com-



mon schools of Plymouth, Black River Academy, and the Adrian High school of Adrian, Mich. He married Mrs. Julia Earle, daughter of James S. Brown of Plymouth, Vt. In 1893, he entered into partnership with Henry T. Brown in the hardware business.

Hubbard, Charles J. was the son of Orin and Martha Myres Hubbard and was born in Andover, Vt., May 7, 1870. He was brought up on a farm but was of an inventive mind and was constantly experimenting with machinery and repaired clocks and watches at his home. He came to Ludlow in Jan. 1897 and bought the jewelry business of O. A. Knights. He at once put in a new outfit of trays and show cases and a selected stock of handsome watches, jewelry, silver, etc. As a graduate of the Philadelphia Optical College he could do scientific optical work also. He was a skilled engraver. He married Miss Effie Heald of Chester and they had one daughter, Dorothy. He died Sept. 22, 1926.

Keating, John, son of John Keating, was born in Ludlow, Feb. 26, 1852. He attended the village schools and Black



John Keating

River Academy. Sept. 25, 1876, he married Mary Cronan of Ludlow. They had four children; William H. born July 19, 1877, Florence L. born Sept. 27, 1880, John F. born Feb. 14, 1882, died Nov. 17, 1891, and Margaret E., born Feb. 5, 1887 and died Nov. 18 1891. In 1875, Mr. Keating commenced business in Ludlow as a barber, and continued till 1890 when he commenced manufacturing cigars. He turned out about 100,000 cigars annually, there were four brands considered superior, "2-15", Little Dan, Windsor and Keating's Perfecto. He also conducted a pool and billiard room. He died Dec. 26, 1923.

Knights, Fred O., son of Geo. C. Knights was born in Putney, Vt., Mar. 2, 1855. He attended the common schools, and afterward, Black River Academy. June 7, 1893, he married Miss Lenora M. Hammond of Ludlow. They had one son, Frederick H. born Apr. 14, 1894.

Mr. Knights entered the employ of J. S. Gill in February, 1871, as book-keeper. In 1879, he was promoted to superintendant of the works, and in 1885, he became a member of the firm. In the fall of 1896, he became the sole manager of the business, running the mill on a three year lease, which expired Jan. 1, 1900. He proved himself a very able business man.

From 1896 to 1899, there was severe depression in the wool manufacturing interests of the whole country, caused by excessive production. Many mills were obliged to suspend business, but through it all, Mr. Knight managed to keep his mill running on full time nearly, making a supporting pillar for the other interests of the town. He was made Vice-president of the Ludlow Savings Bank and Trust Co., at the time of its organization. He died March 31, 1928.

Lamere, Lewis N., son of John Lamere, was born in Mechanicsville, Vt., June 6, 1862. He married Nellie Murphy of Ludlow, May 26, 1885, and had three sons, Harry N., born May 3, 1887, Leo J. born July 23, 1889 and Willie E., born Feb. 21, 1894. Mr. Lamere received his schooling in common schools of Canada, where his parents removed when he was quite young. He commenced the grocery business in Ludlow in 1896. Part of the time Harry Upham was associated with him. Later he sold new and second hand furniture. He died May 12, 1934.



Levey, George H. was born in County Longford, Ireland on March 16, 1841. He came to Ludlow when he was about eight years old and worked on a farm until he was old enough to work in the woolen mill. He was the first man to enlist in the army, serving nine months. He returned to Ludlow in 1885 as manager and partner in operation of the Ludlow Woolen Mill. This partnership terminated when he built the Black River Woolen Co. Mill. He was a thoroughly practical and successful manufacturer and a self made man. He married Thirza E. Needham and a daughter Lena A., and a son George P. were born to them. He died on Feb. 10, 1903.

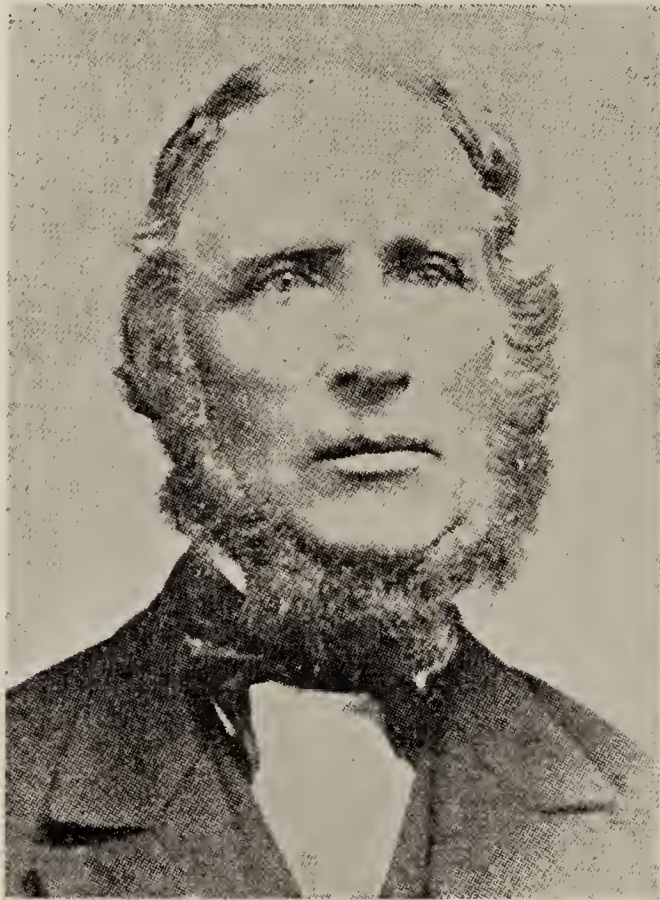
Levey, George P. is the son of George H. and Thirza E. Levey. He was born in Harrisville, N. H. on January 8, 1877. He attended the local schools, Black River Academy and the Lowell Textile School. He married Lena A. Clark, daughter of M. V. and Mary E. Clark of Keene, N. H., on October 12, 1905. He was manager of Black River Woolen Co. from 1903 until 1923. He is President of Jewell Brook Woolen Co., and Director of Ludlow Savings Bank & Trust Co. He built his house in 1911.

Lockwood, Albert H., son of William Lockwood, was born in Springfield, Vt., Oct. 18, 1840. His parents died when he was a year old, and he was then adopted by Burklin Burnham of Springfield. His opportunities for schooling were very limited, as he had only a short time to attend the common district schools. In 1858, Mr. Lockwood came to Ludlow and entered the employment of Chas. S. Mason, where he remained six years. He then obtained employment of L. G. Hammond, and remained with him another six years. He married Mary A. Adams of Ludlow, June 10, 1863, and had two children. Alice M., born May 21, 1874, and graduated from the Normal School at Westfield, Mass., in June, 1896., and Edward A. born Mar. 9, 1886.

In 1870, Mr. Lockwood went into partnership with Chas. Raymond. In 1876 he withdrew from the clothing business, and took up trade in general groceries with Edward E. Parker. In 1882, he bought out Mr. Parker's interest, and continued alone until 1885. He then changed to the boot and shoe business. The confidence of his fellow townsmen

is attested by various town offices which he held. He died Apr. 6, 1923.

Parker, Zachariah was born in New Ipswich, Mass. Sept. 21, 1797, and came to Ludlow in 1821. He settled on South Hill, and lived there for many years on the old farm, still known as the Parker farm. Although he had no school education, Mr. Parker was a man of very strong mental powers, had a broad, practical business ability, and was a successful farmer. Mr. Parker died on July 21, 1883. Notwithstanding his peculiarities few men are missed as much from a community as he was among his fellow townsmen.



Jacob Patrick

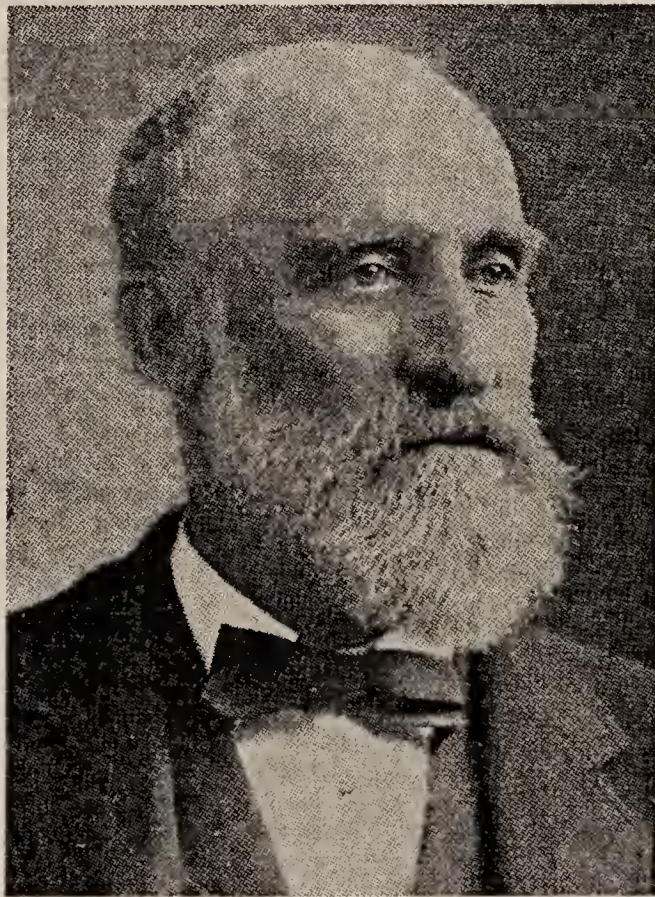
Patrick, Jacob, son of Matthew, was born in Windsor, Vt., Nov. 24, 1802, and married Robie H. Atwood, July 8, 1828. By this union there were three children, Elizabeth A. born Mar. 5, 1830, William A. born Sept. 26, 1832, and Emily A., born Dec. 17, 1834.

Elizabeth was married Sept. 27, 1848, to Frederick Y. Gookin. By this marriage there were two children. Mrs. Gookin died June 5, 1895. Emily married Isaac F. West, of



Saratoga Spr., N. Y., and died Dec. 28, 1895, leaving no issue.

Mr. Patrick attended only the common schools of his early days. He learned the blacksmith's trade at Windsor,



William Patrick

Vt., and at Vasselboro, Me. In 1827. He came to Ludlow and built a blacksmith shop on the grounds now occupied by the Ludlow Woolen Mills. A fuller description of his business life will be found in the history of the blacksmiths. In his early life he was a captain of a company of the old militia, and was commonly known as Captain Patrick. He died March 27, 1880. His wife died Dec. 8, 1892.

Patrick, William Atwood, son of Jacob, was born in Ludlow, Sept. 26, 1832. He married Mina Mary Parker, Sept. 13, 1854. By this marriage there were two children, Mary Louise was born Apr. 7, 1857, and died Nov. 4, 1888. She was an accomplished lady, and highly respected by all who knew her, William Amasa was born Apr. 28, 1862.

Mr. Patrick attended the schools in Ludlow, including B. R. A. At an early age he turned his attention to mechan-

ical pursuits, and for a time, worked in his father's shop. He then served an apprenticeship in the machine department of the Armory at Windsor, Vt. He commenced business in Ludlow in 1854, in the manufacture of wood-working machinery. His shop was in the wood part of the Ludlow Woolen Mill, at the west end of the plant, power being furnished by the Woolen Mill Co. Mr. Patrick was the inventor and patentee of the well known Patrick gauge lathe, extensively used for turning fork, rake and hoe handles. He also received patents on other inventions. He was a trustee of Ludlow village for several years, and represented the town in the state legislature in 1876-7. In 1882, he purchased an interest in the Lincoln Iron Works at Rutland, Vt. These works became famous for manufacturing marble and granite working machinery. In 1897, Mr. Patrick sold his interest in these works, but, being an excellent workman in iron and steel, he remained in the employ of the company several years longer. He died July 15, 1903, closing a long and successful life.

For more than forty years, Mr. Patrick kept in his employ, Edward A. Rock, who was also a first class workman. Mr. Rock invented and obtained patents on several useful devices in machinery. He and Mr. Patrick worked side by side like brothers, and the interest of one was the interest of the other. Such relations between employer and employee, are seldom found. Mr. Rock was foreman in the Lincoln Iron Works from 1882 to 1897, when disease called him away. He died at the home of his son at Brockton, Mass., in Feb. 1898. While he was in Ludlow he lived in the house now owned by Oscar Fuller.

Pettigrew, Josiah W., son of Parker Pettigrew, was born in Ludlow, May 3, 1823. He married Susan Ann Atwood June 20, 1850, who died Dec. 26, 1881. By this union, there were born three children, Julian P., born May 6, 1852, died Aug. 2, 1868, George A., born Apr. 6, 1858, later a noted business man in Flandreau, S. D., Stella A. born Apr. 28, 1860, died Oct. 10, 1862. Mr. Pettigrew married for his second wife, Amelia T. Newcomb, Jan. 1, 1883. By this marriage there were no children. He received no schooling except that obtained in common schools and



part of two terms at B. R. A. In 1846, he entered the grocery store of his uncle, Andrew Pettigrew, Jr. as an assistant. He remained here seven years. His uncle then sold the business to Emerson and Richards. He remained in their service two years when the business again changed over to Brown & Albee. He remained with them also two years. In 1857, he purchased the block on the corner of Depot and Main streets, later known as the Gill Block, and commenced business for himself. The following spring, he took his brother Elon G. as partner, with whom he continued in business till 1880, when the partnership was dissolved. Soon after he commenced business by himself, in which he continued till he died in 1901. The mercantile business in town was represented by the Pettigrews just one hundred years. No merchant ever did business in Ludlow, who was so well qualified to tell of the lands from which the tropical nuts, fruits, spices, ETC., had assembled in his little store, and the processes by which they were prepared for the markets of the world. His life work was given to the study of his particular line of business. He was a trustee of Black River Academy for over forty years and the later prosperity of this worthy institution, is due in great measure to the early efforts of Mr. Pettigrew and Frederick C. Robbins in the fifties, when the financial resources of the institution were in a low condition. These two men joined hands, and contributed freely from their own resources, that the star of knowledge might continue to shine on Academy hill. Little contributions from them at the right time did much toward establishing the later prosperity of the school. Mr. Pettigrew was also a supporting pillar of the Baptist Church.

Pettigrew, Elon G., son of Parker Pettigrew, was born in Ludlow, Dec. 8, 1831. He married Salome C. Bixby of Mount Holly, May 7, 1856, and had two children, Carrie S., born March 21, 1858, and died Jan. 28, 1859, and Jennie S., born Mar. 5, 1860. Mrs. Pettigrew died in Ludlow, July 11, 1870, and Mr. Pettigrew married Jennie R. Maynard of Cambridge, N. Y. Aug. 3, 1871. One son was born to them, Harry P. born Aug. 22, 1874, died Sept. 27, 1874.

Mr. Pettigrew attended the common schools of native

town. He lived with his father on the farm later owned by Charles Esty, till he was twenty-one years of age. He then worked out on a farm for two years. After that he



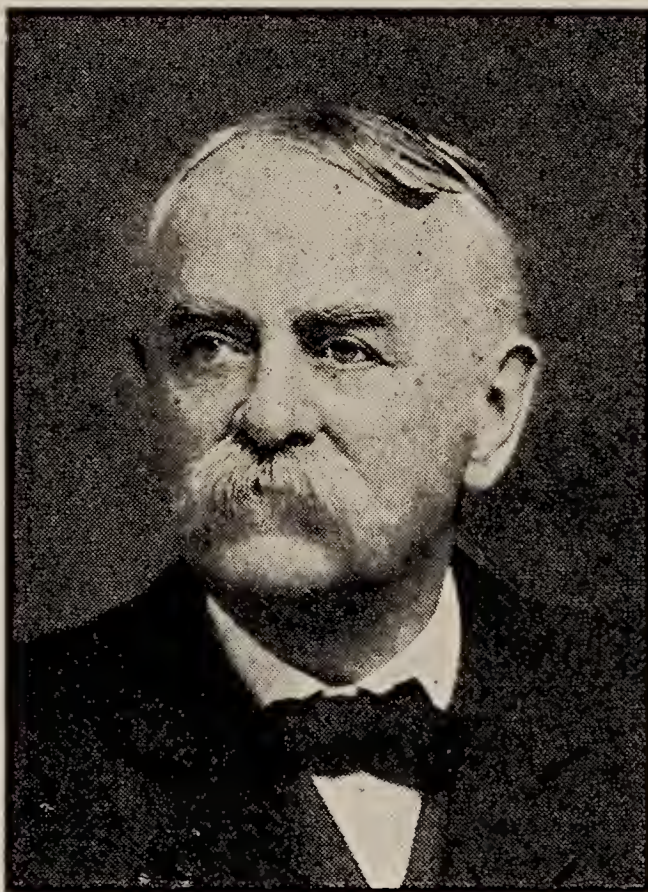
Elon G. Pettigrew

engaged with W. A. Bacon of Ludlow as a commercial traveler, selling perfumes and cooking extracts. He followed this occupation for two and a half years. In 1858, he engaged in the flour and grain business with his brother, J. W. Pettigrew, and followed this until 1879, when he removed to South Dakota, where he took up farming on a large scale, successfully breeding and raising Hampshire-down sheep and cattle. Mr. Pettigrew represented Ludlow in the state assembly in 1874-5, and was a director of the Vermont state prison at Windsor from 1875 to 1879. He was one of the village trustees for several years.

Raymond, Charles, son of C. S. Raymond and Charlotte M. Dane, was born in Woodstock, Vt., June 16, 1841. He married Ellen R. Dimick of Sharon, Vt. They had three sons, George W., Charles S., and Frank S. When Mr. Raymond was small the family moved to Bridgewater and his

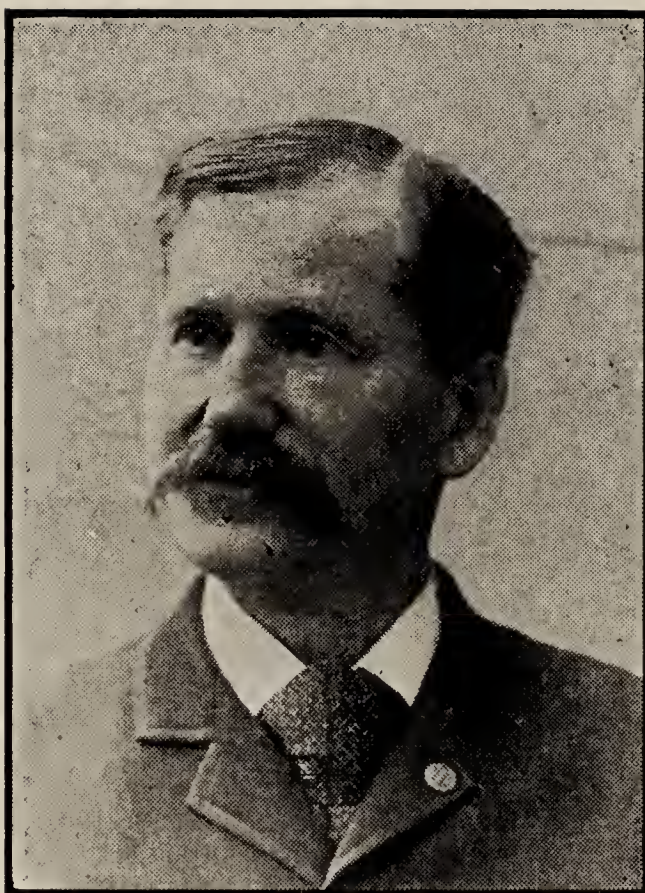


education was in the common schools and Kimball Union Academy. During his boy-hood he worked in his father's store. He came to Ludlow in 1868 and engaged in the clothing business for many years. His son George was associated with him in the business. He belonged to Black River Lodge, F. & A. M. and to Killington Commandery, also Altimont Lodge I. O. O. F. He died Oct. 14, 1908.



Chas. Raymond

Sargent, Darwin R., son of Calvin Sargent, was born in Ludlow, May 24, 1845, and married Mary E. Johnson of Ludlow, Feb. 27, 1868. Four children were born to them; Hattie L., born Feb. 8, 1869, Lena A. born June 20, 1870, Albert A. born Nov. 16, 1871, and Winfield D. born March 28, 1880. Mr. Sargent attended the common schools of North Hill, Ludlow. He enlisted into the U. S. service at Brattleboro, Vt., Oct. 23, 1862, as private in Co. C of the 16th regiment, and was discharged Aug. 10, 1863. He was one of the leading carpenters in town for many years. He died Feb. 9, 1907.



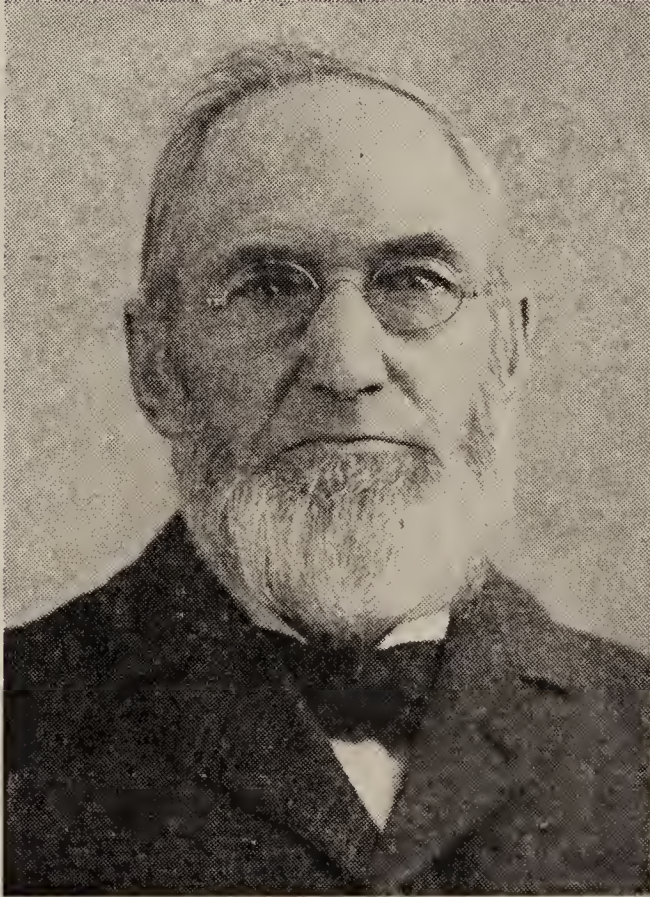
Darwin Sargent

Sargent, J. Garibaldi, son of John Henman Sargent, was born in Ludlow, Oct. 13, 1860. He graduated from Black River Academy in 1883, from Tuft's College in 1887, immediately commenced the study of law in the office of W. W. Stickney. He was admitted to the Windsor county bar in 1890, and was in partnership with Mr. Stickney. He was state's attorney in 1899 and 1900. Like his partner Mr. Sargent obtained his schooling by his own efforts, and by his steady attention to business, worked his way upward in his profession. Aug. 4, 1887, he married Mary L. Gordon of Ludlow, and has one child, Gladys Gordon, born Jan. 15, 1896. He served as Attorney-General of the United States from 1925-1929 under President Coolidge. After which he resumed his law practise in Ludlow. He died Mar. 5, 1939.

Sherman, Alvah F. son of Elias Huntington Sherman, was born in Fairfield, Vt., Oct. 30, 1827. He attended common schools, and Bakersfield Academy. He worked on his father's farm until he attained his majority, and taught



school in the winter season, at ten and eleven dollars per month, boarding around the district. Later, he worked out on a farm at twelve and a half dollars per month, for only July and August. He then followed the business of



A. F. Sherman

grafting fruit trees, in northern Vermont and Canada, for about four years. He then sold medicine on foot, later with a team in northern N. Y. In April, 1854, he came to Brandon, Vt. where he studied the drug business with Dr. C. L. Cass. In 1856, he married Charlotte Safford of Fairfield, Vt. Mr. Sherman came to Ludlow in Oct. 1857, and took possession of the drug-store that was vacated by Dr. E. D. Gibbs, who succeeded Jewett Ives, who followed Thompson & Jackson. This store was in the room formerly occupied by the Ludlow Savings Bank & Trust Co. Mrs. Sherman died Jan. 13, 1861, leaving one son, Francis W. Sherman. Sept. 12, 1869 Mr. Sherman married Mary E. Safford, who had become an accomplished drug and prescription clerk. There were no children by this marriage.

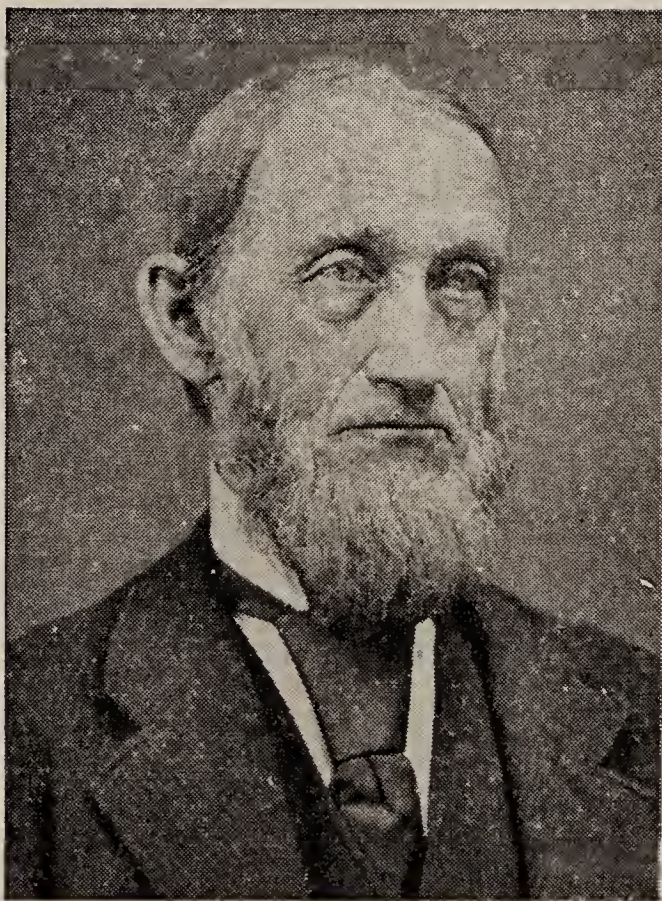
In Aug. 1866, he sold a half interest in his business to

his brother, Capt. Linus E. Sherman. The firm continued in business about ten years. He then bought out his brother's interest. While the business was run by Sherman Bros., they removed to the Owen Spaulding store, fully described in the village description. At first he sold cigars, but abandoned it on account of the bad effect on boys. He also restricted the sale of liquors to medicinal uses, and was always a firm advocate of temperance. As news agent he endeavored to suppress the sale of bad literature. He sold the leading dailies through the war of the Rebellion, the Spanish-American and the Chinese war. Mr. Sherman united with the Baptist Church in 1858, and for many years, held the office of Supt. or Assistant Supt. of the Sunday school. He was a deacon of the church and the clerk. He was also for many years the treasurer of the board of trustees of B. R. A. He won the respect of his fellow townsmen, by his fair dealing, and was a generous contributor to his church, educational advancement, and the improvement of the town. Mr. Sherman was an unpretentious member of a noted family, being a lineal descendant of Samuel Sherman, who came from Dedham, England, A. D. 1634, and settled in Strafford, Ct. from whom also, was descended Gen. Wm. T. Sherman, and Sec. John Sherman. He died on August 18, 1914.

Smith, E. Warren, son of John Smith, was born at Leicester, Vt., Oct. 7, 1822. He attended the Brandon, Vt. schools including the seminary at that place. Sept. 8, 1844, he married Lizzie Read of Mt. Holly, Vt. They had two children, Flora Belle, born Mar. 25, 1852, died Sept. 2, 1853, and Hattie May, born Aug. 15, 1854. Mr. Smith followed the tailoring business from 1840 to 1854, when he became station agent at Ludlow. He served in that capacity about 36 years. He died April 20, 1914.

Stickney, William W. was born in Plymouth, Vt., Mar. 21, 1853. He received his education at Black River Academy, and Phillips Academy at Exeter, N. H. He held the office of second assistant clerk of the House of Representatives in the Vermont legislature in 1872, first assistant clerk in 1878 and 1880, and clerk from 1882 to 1892. He located his law business in Ludlow in 1877, and has





E. Warren Smith

been connected with the Windsor county bar since 1878. He was state's attorney for this county in 1882-84, and again in 1890-92 and was candidate for Governor in 1896, the successful candidate defeating him by only three votes. In 1898, he again received the nomination and was elected. To be a lawyer was the ambition of Mr. Stickney's life, even from childhood. His former schoolmates tell that when but a small boy, he would hold jury courts, with his play-mates for assistants. He was a man of quick and clear perception and accurate judgement and made the profession in which he had a high standing, a study rather than a trade. Being one of a large family he gained his education and place in the world by his own exertions. May 4, 1881, he married Lizzie E. Lincoln of Ludlow. There were no children by this marriage, and March 29, 1903, Mrs. Stickney died. He was again married, June 1, 1905 to Sarah E. Moore. He died on December 15, 1932.

Walker, William Harris, second son of Ephriam and Lydia (Harris) Walker, was born in Windham, Vt., Feb.

2, 1832. He attended Leland Academy in Townsend, Vt., one term, and entered B. R. A. in 1852, remaining there one year. He graduated with full honors from Middlebury College, and was for many years, one of the trustees of that institution. After leaving college, he held the position of Principal in the Little Falls Academy at Little Falls, N. Y., at the same time devoting his spare time to the study of law with Judge Arphaxed Loomis of that place. Mr. Walker came to Ludlow in 1860, and continued his studies with Hon. F. C. Robbins, being admitted to the bar in 1861. He commenced practise here the same year. The various positions of political and judicial trust which Mr. Walker held, are the best testimonials to the esteem which was accorded him by his fellow citizens for his integrity and marked ability.

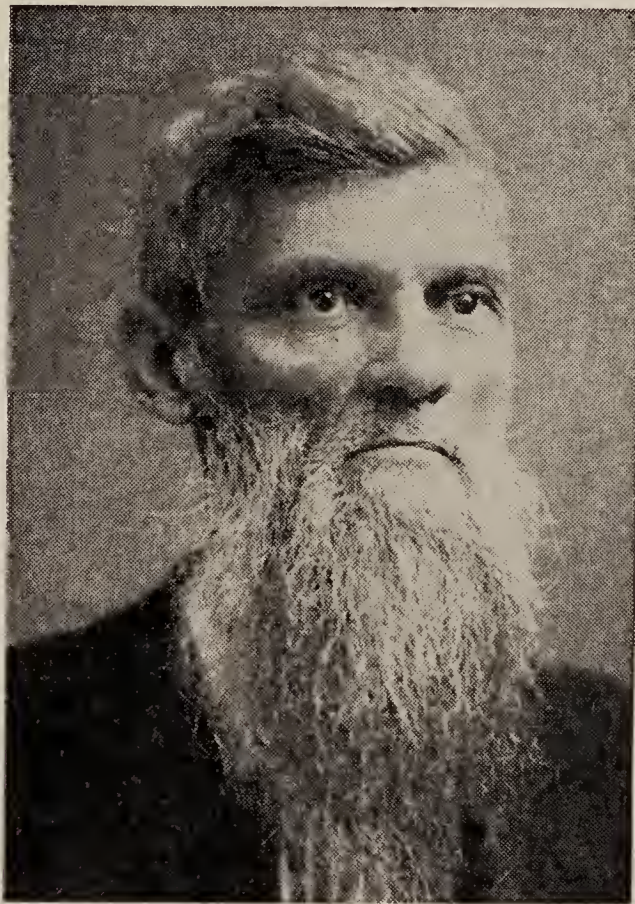
Mr. Walker held the office of Assistant Secretary of the state Senate in 1857, was a member of the Vt. House of Representatives of 1865-66, and 1884, member of the state Senate in 1867-68. State's Attorney in 1874-76. Supervisor of the Insane, 1878-80. Probate Judge of Windsor district from 1878 to 1884, and was elected a member of the Supreme Bench in the latter year. This position he held till 1887, when ill health compelled him to resign. He married Ann Eliza, daughter of Dr. Adrian G. Taylor of Ludlow, and had one child, Frank A. His physical health was completely broken down during the last few years of his life, the result of excessive mental strain. He died Aug. 11, 1896.

Walker, Frank A. son of Hon. Wm. H. Walker, was born in Londonderry, Vt. Mar. 7, 1860, graduated from Black River Academy in 1878, and from Middlebury College in 1882. He studied law with M. H. Goddard, and was admitted to the Windsor county bar in 1886. He commenced the practise of law by himself in 1891, and in 1898 was made Probate Judge. He was highly respected in his profession, not only in his own community, but through out the state. May 14, 1886, he married Jennie A. Leland of Ludlow, and has one child, Carmen R., born Dec. 5, 1889. He died Oct. 25, 1917.

Warner, Rufus, son of Joel and Betsy (Flint) Warner,



was born in Andover, Vt., May 12, 1831. His parents came to reside in Ludlow in 1835. He attended the village schools and a few terms at B. R. A. He inherited the comical turn of mind that was so characteristic of the Warner family and



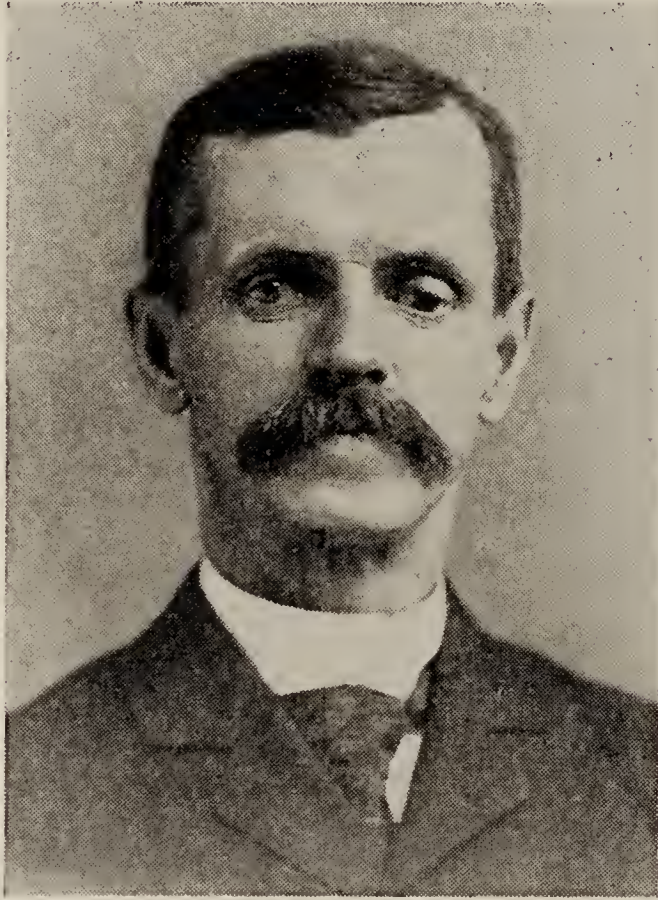
Rufus Warner

played many a frolicsome joke on his school-mates, and, in later years, on his friends and associates. May 2, 1858, he married Ann Walker of Reading, Vt. Four children were born to them, a son, born Apr. 1, 1859, who died the same day, Edwin C., born Aug. 23, 1860, a daughter, born in March 1862, who died on the day of her birth, and Joel R., born Jan. 27, 1865.

Mr. Warner began to learn the printer's trade in 1845, and worked on the first news paper published in Ludlow. He worked continuously at his trade with the exception of six months when he worked in a chair shop in East Templeton, Mass. He died June 11, 1912.

Wheldon, Benjamin F., son of Benjamin Wheldon, was born in Springfield, Vt., Apr. 10, 1846. He attended only the common schools. He came to Ludlow Aug. 1, 1867, and was

engaged most of his life after that time in the tin and hardware business. He was a "hustler" with good business capabilities. May 22, 1872, he married Myra A. Marsh, of Chester, Vt., and had six children; Gertie, born Aug. 25, 1873, died July 17, 1879, James H., born Dec. 10, 1876, Frank M.



B. J. Wheldon

born Apr. 2, 1879, Perley E. born July 6, 1882, Richard S., born Nov. 7, 1888, Belno M. born March 30, 1894. Mrs. Wheldon died Mar. 31, 1894. She was a very amiable woman and esteemed by all who knew her. May 31, 1899, Mr. Wheldon married Mrs. Mary J. Crane of Ludlow, who died May 4, 1902. Mr. Wheldon died Dec. 14, 1911, killed by an explosion of a gasoline tank.

Walker, Herbert E. son of George E. and Ann A. (Wilder) Walker, was born in Ludlow, Vt. on May 13, 1866. His father owned the Harness & Collar Shop. Mr. Walker was educated in the Ludlow public schools. He married Ina A. Thomson March 25, 1890. They have one child George F. Walker born on October 30, 1891. Mr. Walker played in the Band and Orchestra for sixty years. He purchased the



Agan Shoddy Mill in 1920 and his son is associated with him, doing business under the name of H. E. Walker & Son. Mrs. Walker was a very popular teacher in the Ludlow schools for forty years.

Woodward, Norris H., son of Herrick Woodward, was born in Ludlow, Oct. 12, 1856. He attended the common schools and graduated from Black River Academy in 1876. He followed the precepts rather than the example of King Solomon, and never allowed his admiration for the fair sex to lead him into matrimony. He entered the meat and provision business in 1887. He also for several years, bought cattle, sheep, hogs and poultry for the Boston market. He died Aug. 23, 1911.



Norris Woodward

## APPENDIX

In looking through the old record books and other material he had gathered, we found many interesting articles. In this appendix we are copying some of them which we think will be of interest to the reader.

We find that the Dutch, who settled at New York after 1609, were invaded by the English who took over that territory. Whereupon King Charles the 2nd, granted a Charter of all the lands from the Delaware to the Hudson River. Later Governor Clinton acquainted Gov. Wentworth, that this Province (New York) was bounded eastward by the Connecticut River; and was called Cumberland County. Later when King George the 3d commissioned Gov. Wentworth, 1741, as Governor of New Hampshire, the King issued Charters describing his Province, as reaching west until it met the King's other Govt's. Thus bounding N. H. at a line 20 miles east of the Hudson River, extending northerly to Lake Champlain, that being the east bound of New York. This was as ordered by the Charter Title to the Duke of York. No doubt the difference between these two lines, which included the State of Vermont, was not clear to the King, which later brought up a controversy between Governors Clinton and Wentworth, which had to be settled by King George and his Council.

In laying out the townships, no doubt the western bank of the Connecticut River was surveyed, and the corners of those towns westward, were designated from there.

Thus Ludlow was chartered but no survey was made at that time, even under the Governor's orders as was provided; however the town was marked off on a crude map.

Later at a meeting of the proprietors of Ludlow, held in Wallingford, Vt., on the second Monday of Oct. 1761, it was voted that Phineas Bradley, Isaac Doolittle, Josiah Newell, Amos Lee, Samuel Hitchcock and John Newell, Jr. proceed as soon as may be, to the township of Ludlow, and survey the township according to the Charter, lay out substantial bounds at each corner, mark trees and lay bounds in each line at convenient distances, take a view of the mountains, rivers, lakes and lands, draw a



plan of the same and report their doings at the next meeting, so on December 10, 1761 in compliance to this order they proceeded to do so. Thus Ludlow was bounded on the North by Saltash, now called Plymouth, on the East by Cavendish and Flamstead, now Chester, south by Andover. On May 31st, 1785. At a proprietor's meeting it was voted that the said Joseph Fletcher be made a member of a committee to lay out highways in Ludlow, and later on Oct. 15, 1789, a petition from several persons was made praying for a lottery for the purpose of repairing the roads in Ludlow, Cavendish and Jackson's Gore, was presented but no definite action was taken.

The first annual Town Meeting was held in Ludlow on the 31st day of March, A. D. 1792. In accordance with the Charter, Capt. Elakim Hall being Moderator. The following officers were elected. Jesse Fletcher, Town Clerk. Three selectmen, 1st Jesse Fletcher, 2nd Jonas Hadley, 3d Elihue Ives. Town Treasurer, Josiah Fletcher. Constable Simeon Reed. Issac Powers, David Lewis, Jonas Holden Listers. Joseph Greene, Leather Sealer. Thomas Bixby, Pound Keeper. John Hadley, Grand Jurerman. William Caldwell, Tithingman. David Bixby, Fence viewer. William Caldwell, Silas Proctor, Levi Bixby, Nathanel Pin-grey, Simeon Reed, Surveyors of Highways. John Hadley, Sealer of Weights and Measures.

In old days hogs were allowed to run at large, and in case of any damage done to a neighbor, was taken care of by the Hogwards who acted as referees. A Tithingman was a man or officer to enforce SUNDAY observance and order.

### **Warnings Out**

We learn that years ago in England they had a law called Warnings out, somewhat like our present Zoning Law; From the New England History, Reg. of Jan., 1938, Page 46 you may find a reference to an ordinance passed by the people of Charlestown, Mass. which the following was copied from the early records of that town, it may give you some idea of what warning out means. At a meeting of the Select Townsmen of Charlestown the 24th

day of the 11th month (Jan.) 1653. Whereas it is found by dayly experience that Towns are brought under great burthen and charge by their inhabitants receiving and entertaining of strangers into their Housen and families without the knowledge or consent of the selectmen. And whereas it may be of very great inconviency and extreme charge for the future of the town.

It is therefore ordered by the Townmens this 24th day of the 11th month 1653 that no inhabitant of this towne called Charlestowne shall sell or lett or dispose of any House lott, or house in sayd town to a stranger whosoever to inhabitate amongst us without knowledge and consent of sayd selectmen.

Also it is ordered that no inhabitant of said towne shall receive any families ould or younge into their said Houses to Abyde with them above a week's tyme without approbation from the selectmen aforesaid or security from sayd person or persons so receiving any families to bear the town harmless and to save it from all charges and damage that may come by such persons so residing with them. And if any person of this town not with standing this shall be delinquent, then every such person for the first offense to forfeit ten shillings, and for every week after ten shillings more as long as they shall bee so defective.

John Greene—Town Clerk.

From this we can fully understand why Warnings Out was adopted in Ludlow Town, and the record shows from Nov. 13, 1805 until Dec. 9, 1817 this was carried on, both to single persons as well as families.

## BOUNDARIES

Regarding the bounderies of Ludlow as mentioned in the Charter. You will notice that Ludlow was bounded on the north by Saltash, in 1797 this name was changed to Plymouth. On the east by Cavendish and Flamstead. On Feb. 22, 1754 Governor Wentworth granted a charter under the name of Flamstead to the town now known as Chester. Later this charter was forfeited through non-fulfillment



of the conditions named in the charter. A second charter was granted Nov. 3, 1761 under the name of New Flamstead. However this charter was declared illegal in the controversy between Gov. Wentworth and Gov. Clinton of New York, through a decision handed down by King George the third, who upheld the claims made by Gov. Clinton that the west bank of the Connecticut River was the boundary line between New Hampshire and New York. Therefore under date of July 14, 1766 a third charter was granted by Gov. Clinton in the name of Chester.

On the south bounded by Andover. This town was divided on Oct. 26, 1799 and the west part was taken over to help make up the town of Weston. That is why it is now bounded on the south by both Andover and Weston. On the west bounded by Jackson's Gore, this name was changed to Mount Holly in 1792.

## **TOWN REPORTS**

In the annual town report of Ludlow dated Feb. 20, 1856 it shows the town debt as \$1142.45. The population for the whole town numbered 1,581, and it showed 786 of these lived in the corporation.

In the report for the year 1859 the town was in debt \$4470.86 and in the report dated Feb. 15, 1862 near the start of the Civil War there was a balance against the town for \$3,489.78. But if the town farm with the personal property had been sold at the appraisal it would have shown a balance in favor of the town of \$676.25.

In the town report of Feb. 20, 1866 it shows the town in debt \$17,016.22. However this was largely caused by the paying of the soldier's bonus and \$4 per month to its drafted men. In the town report of 1867 it shows the town in debt \$14,067.07. In the report for the schools the average wages paid male teachers was \$25.25 per month, and its female teachers \$9.25 per month. It was observed that the average wage paid the female teachers was far less than that of males, yet it was generally conceded that the

female teachers were equally efficient, if not better in most schools. The number of families in town was 397.

In the early settlement of Ludlow they first built log cabins, then later came frame buildings. The frame work was joined together by wooden pins. Holes had to be bored for the pins. The first augers for boring these holes were made by the blacksmiths, it was called a Pod-Auger. This had a straight channel or groove like the half a bean pod, hence its name. On the end through the center from the top of the channel to the bottom was a slit with one edge raised, with a tip to form a cutting edge. This could be sharpened when needed. This would cut into the wood by using considerable force. Later man's ingenuity produced a faster cutting auger similar to a ship auger, with a clearance through its center for the shaving to pass through. Then later came one with an outside groove like the present day type.

Referring to the way water was conveyed by pump logs to farm buildings from springs. They used the following kinds of wood, cedar, hemlock, spruce, pine and bass-wood. The logs were cut 6 to 10 feet long, and were about four inches in diameter, with a hole bored through the center the entire length, usually about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. They used a Pump-log Auger for this purpose. They were made in different lengths from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to a little over 10 feet. With the long type they could bore the entire length, but with the shorter kind they had to bore one end past the center, then from the other end bore to break into the first hole at the center. In boring if the two holes did not break true in the center a long firing rod was heated red hot and any obstruction was burned out. The boring end of the auger was about 9 inches long with a seven-eighths inch diameter from there to the handle, which was made of wood and about 30 inches in length.

After boring, a large wide tapered reamer was used to ream out one end of the hole. Then a chamfering tool, with a wooden body and handle, with a center pilot to hold it true was used to point the other end of the log to the same angle, so that one log fitted tight in the end of



the next log without coupling or packing. Some were chamfered with hand tools and sealed with pitch and oakum. The usual price paid for boring, tapering and chamfering laid in a trench dug by the land owner, was 25 cents per rod. But those were the days when the country Doctor charged for "visit and medicine" seventeen cents, which was the old shilling of sixteen and two-thirds cents, six to the dollar. Later water was conveyed through a soapstone pipe line, cut 2 inches square and 2 feet long with a one inch hole. The ends were sometimes fitted with a tapered hole at one end and chamfered to fit at the other end. Others used a metal coupling.













